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OF

Staffordshire and Suffolk

A Classified Collection of the Chief Contents of "The Gentleman's Magazine" from 1731-1868

Part XI

Edited by

George Laurence Gomme

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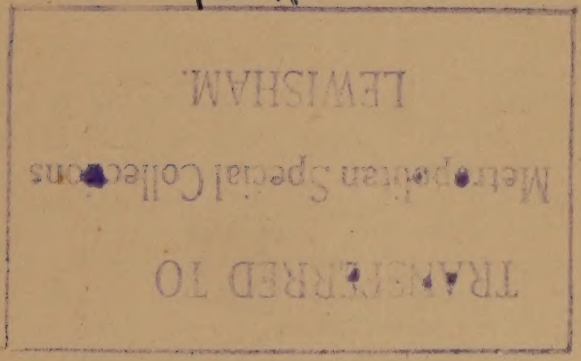

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INTRODUCTION.

ONLY two counties are included in this volume—Staffordshire and Suffolk. This means that both are more fully represented than usual. The two counties are very different in character and in position. Staffordshire is a mining county and inland; Suffolk is agricultural and bordering on the sea. Their antiquities and people, too, differ widely, and the records from the *Gentleman's Magazine* appear to indicate this dissimilarity very well.

Besides the usual store of information to be gathered from the communications, for the most part locally contributed, there are a few special things worth noting. Of customs there is the distribution of one penny to every resident in Walsall (p. 19), which takes place on the eve of Epiphany, and the origin of which is entirely lost. The popular tradition at Beresford as to the flaying of a straggler from the Scottish army, and the tanning of his skin (p. 32), is a variant of a rather widespread tradition generally referred to the Danish invasion, and I do not think the subject has been investigated with any care, though it is well worthy of attention. The well superstition at Rockcliffe (p. 67) is one of the many ancient rites connected with water worship to be found all over the country. St. Chad's well is described very fully on p. 111. Perhaps the interesting note on burial customs (p. 124) at Norton-le-Moors takes us back to early times when night burial was the ordinary method. The marriage ceremony of the Commonwealth period, as explained on pp. 161-162, will be welcome to many inquirers who have not yet come across entries on this subject.

The well-known rhyme relating to Bungay Castle and King of Cockney is recorded on p. 184. The remarkable custom, recorded on pp. 209-210, at Bury St. Edmunds, affords a good example of the value of local notices of these unrecorded fragments of the past. This custom is only, so far as I know, mentioned by one other authority, and it is sufficiently curious to need such confirmation as a double record will give it. The account of Mock Beggar's Hall at Claydon, and its somewhat curious tradition (p. 222), is interesting.

The so-called Roman remains of a "barricade composed of entire oak-trees" at Wall (p. 19) deserve special attention, as they were probably not Roman, but remains of a pile dwelling. The remains at Armitage are of more definite character (p. 41), and also at Cheadle (p. 68). The so-called encampments at Shareshill are probably properly described on p. 131. The discovery of pottery in the church wall at Fairwell (p. 75) is a very interesting archæological matter not capable of being frequently noted. The boots recovered from the stone coffin of Adam de Stanford, who died in 1278 (p. 110), are certainly curiosities of an unusual type. Lichfield has to mourn much destruction to its cathedral at the hands of restorers; but, alas! the note on this subject (pp. 101-103) are only echoes of what is still being said of almost all our ancient churches. Stone coffins seem to abound in the county of Staffordshire, and there are many notes of their discovery.

In Suffolk the bronze sword found at Bury St. Edmunds is worth attention (p. 212). At Bury St. Edmunds a writer in 1844 applauds the apparently ruthless restoration of St. Mary's Church. The very acceptable account of the church plate at Long Melford (pp. 253-259) will be welcome to many antiquaries.

Of domestic architecture, by far the most interesting example is the description of the far-famed Fishing-house of Izaak Walton (pp. 35-37). The local description is really admirable: "The Fishing-house of Izaak Walton is 15 feet square, and about 30 feet in height, to the centre of the pointed roof. Opposite the entrance, in the right-hand corner, is an angular excavation, wherein it is said Cotton deposited his wine. Our cicerone informed us that 'soon after Squire Cotton's time' his aunt was housekeeper at the hall, then occupied by a Mr. Osborn, at which period the Fishing-house was ceiled and in good condition; and that Mr. O. being a

devoted angler, had a mattress there, for the convenience of sleeping near the river, which was raised or let down by pulleys. The hall, he added, now belongs to a Mr. Jebb, of Chesterfield, in Derbyshire, whose maiden sister long resided there, expending much money to keep the house and grounds in a state differing greatly from their present forlorn condition. It is now inhabited by a labourer and his family, and two or three apartments are occupied by a clergyman named Ward, who does duty at Hartington and Wetton; but we were told that Mr. Jebb had intimated an intention of making it his own residence. This idea, however, I presume he abandoned; for about twelve months after the time at which we visited the place it was announced for sale." The old half-timbered house at Hanbury (p. 80) has only a line or two of information given to it. The loss of the choristers' house at Lichfield (p. 107) is one of those irreparable mistakes which are so heartrending to those who love these memorials of the past. The old house at Moseley, with its curious pictures and other relics (pp. 121-123), is another instance of decay. The manor-house at Norbury was moated in 1801, though then in a ruinous condition (p. 123). House inscriptions, of which an example is given from Pelsall (p. 127), deserve the attention of local antiquaries and immediate collection. They are extremely interesting and are rapidly disappearing, and only occasionally are they to be found in local records. Pilaton Hall (pp. 129-130), the seat of the Littletons, must have been a fine old mansion, with its inscriptions on the windows and its many relics of a continued occupation by one family. The moated parsonage house at Wheatfield (p. 285) must be a somewhat remarkable structure, composed partly of Roman stonework, "from the ruins of a temple erected to Claudius, which possibly stood in the same place, surrounded with water for the convenience of sacrificing." Unfortunately this communication is dated 1758, when archæology was not exactly noted for accuracy, and the learned author indulges in some fanciful remarks about Picts and Scots, and other things which, containing *inter alia* some indications of relics worth more attention, are here printed entire; but anything more ludicrous than the conclusions of this contributor to local antiquities it is impossible to conceive. What the true nature of these remains were, it is, I suppose, hopeless to conjecture.

The great bridge at Burton-on-Trent is a notable structure, described on pp. 61-65; while another noted bridge, that at Bury St. Edmunds (p. 213), is the subject of a very useful note dating from 1829 and accompanied by illustrations. St. Olave's Bridge, over the Waveney at Herringfleet, in Suffolk (p. 235), is described from a MS. by Bishop Tanner.

The battle of Blore Heath in 1459 is commemorated as described on pp. 54-60, and there were the usual local traditions extant about this engagement. The taking of Eccleshall Castle "by Stafford souldiers" is described on pp. 70-71, and the struggle at Lichfield is noted on p. 96. The remarkable discovery at Fornham St. Genevieve, in Suffolk (p. 227), is a telling relic of an ancient battlefield.

The pronunciation of place-names is always a matter of importance for philological purposes. Thus "Yan" for "Endon" (p. 32) is a particularly good example. The list of Staffordshire names for hills or mountains (p. 33) is extremely interesting.

Longevity is apparently a noted feature of Staffordshire. It is referred to at Harborne (p. 16), Longdon (p. 17), Maer (pp. 17, 118), Uttoxeter (p. 19), Leek (p. 32). Perhaps, however, the MS. note attached to Plot's "History," and quoted on p. 32, which attributes this quality of Staffordshire people to the "drinking of ale," may not be generally accepted nowadays.

Family history is, as usual, well represented, not only by special accounts, but by the records of church inscriptions. These records, copied down in the time before such ruthless destruction as we have witnessed of late years had occurred, are of more than ordinary value, for they may be, and in most cases undoubtedly are, the only means we possess of knowing what has been destroyed. In the county of Isaac Walton one might expect to gather something of interest about the great angler. The notes on pp. 35-38 and on p. 69 will not be disappointing. Another celebrity of the county is, of course, Dr. Johnson, and his birthplace at Lichfield was figured in 1785 (p. 108). At Audley the inscriptions are numerous (pp. 42-45); at Handsworth and Tetenhall some heraldry is described (pp. 26-31). Betley also supplies heraldic notes (pp. 51-52). Keel contains many inscriptions and heraldic sculpture of great interest (pp. 83-87). The inscriptions at Madeley (pp. 114-116) and at Maer (pp. 117-119) are interesting, but not very full. At Woolstanton the inscriptions and

heraldry are both good (pp. 156-161). In connection with Suffolk a very interesting contribution is given on London worthies who were natives of that county (pp. 192-194). The Eye inscriptions and heraldic paintings (pp. 225-226) do not afford much information to the antiquary. The inscriptions at Ipswich, transcribed in 1810 (p. 240), are all military or naval in character. The long discussion on the Lavenham inscription (pp. 245-247) is perhaps scarcely worth the space it occupies, though it affords a good example of the enigmatical character often given to these curious memorials of the dead. The Long Melford inscriptions (pp. 259-260) are by no means complete, but they were recorded in 1833. Those of Mildenhall are much more full, and date from 1796 (pp. 269-271), and there are a few from Rendlesham (p. 275).

Charities are frequently recorded. Those at Handsworth (p. 28) are all in money. Isaac Walton's bequest to the Corporation of Stafford (p. 38) contains provisions which might involve certain curious results if the Charity Commissioners looked after these things. The benefaction to Audley includes a schoolhouse, provision for the instruction of poor children, books, relief of the poor in bread, in clothing, and in money, assistance to young tradesmen, and other objects (pp. 45-49). Very similar benefactions were given to Betley (pp. 52-53). At Madeley the charities were very liberal, and included scholastic purposes (p. 113). The Maer charities (p. 120) are of more general character, but the "candlestick money" is worth a special note. The charities of Norton-le-Moors are set out on pp. 124-125. The benefactions to Woolstanton (pp. 155-156) contain one very explicit grant of a practical nature, namely, that "to such poor persons as receive no pension or relief from the officer or overseers of the poor of the parish"; and this probably saved it from being absorbed into the poor rate.

The charities of Suffolk are not so numerous as those of Staffordshire. That relating to the clergy (pp. 194-195) affords a good example of what can be done by proper organization. The hospital for boys, founded at Ampton by James Calthorpe (p. 196), is one of many such examples in various parts of the country. The benefactions of Rendlesham (pp. 277-278) are noted.

The food of the people of Staffordshire, in its wildest parts, was chiefly oat-cake. As in modern times, the waters of rivers have

proved insufficient in times of drought, and the record of the River Trent being dried up (p. 40) is an interesting record which might be useful to the modern inhabitants. The sulphur well between Talk and Audley (p. 49) appears to have been much in vogue, and another at Rockcliffe (p. 67) is also somewhat remarkable.

The description of the several churches is as full and interesting as in previous volumes. Altogether these contributions sent up to the central storehouse afforded by the *Gentleman's Magazine* and extending over a long period of time, give more life-like characteristics to the places than could be obtained by the colder and more accurate processes of modern times. Students will, however, know well enough that these collections must be used with caution when they discuss the origin or attempt to determine the period of any piece of antiquity. They are notes for future use rather than anything else, and they are good reading withal.

All references to illustrations are retained, as in previous volumes of this series, so as to allow of reference to the original when required. This is a help to the student which, in the absence of the illustrations themselves, will, I know, be appreciated.

LAURENCE GOMME.

24, Dorset Square, N.W.,
November, 1898.

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Antiquities.—Druidical Remains, Cannock (several large single stones mark the spot as having been one of their residences); Druid Heath, near Barr Beacon (the seat of the Arch-Druid—near this place was the summer and winter seats of the Arch-Druid); Wetton. British Encampments, Billington; Castle Hill, near Beaudesert. Roman Earth-work, Morton. Roman Encampments, Arleywood; Ashton Heath; Ashwood Heath; Kinver; Oldbury; Shareshill, 2; Teddesley Park; Wolverhampton churchyard. Roman Temples, Eccleshall; Wall. Saxon Encampments, Bury Bank, near Stone; Bunbury; Kinver (the work of Wulfhere, King of Mercia). Saxon Earth-work, at Byrgh, near Maer, erected by Kenred in 705 in opposition to Osrid. Danish Earth-work, King's Standing, Sutton Coldfield (thrown up about 910 at the battles of Tettenhall and Wednesfield). Abbeys of Burton (founded 1004 by Ulfricus Spot, Earl of Mercia); Chotes (cell to Aunay Abbey, in Normandy, removed to Croxden); Croxden (founded in 1176 by Bertrand de Verdon); Dieulacres (founded by Ranulph, Earl of Chester, in 1220); Hanbury (of which St. Werburgh was abbess); Hilton (founded in 1223 by Henry de Audley); and Radmore (founded in 1154, removed to Stonely, co. Warwick). Priories of Calwich

(founded before 1148 by Nicholas de Greselei Fitz-Nigel); Canwell (founded in 1142 by Geva Ridel, daughter of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester); Dudley (founded in 1155 by Gervase Paganel, last Baron of Dudley of that name); Lapley (founded by Algar, a noble Saxon, in 1146, cell to the abbey at Rheims); Lichfield (founded by Roger de Clinton, who was Bishop of Lichfield in 1129); Ranton (founded by Robert Fitz-Noel in 1190); Rowcester (founded by Richard Bacon in 1140); Sandwell (founded in 1155 by William, son of Guy de Opheni); Stafford (founded about 1180 by Richard Peche, Bishop of Lichfield); Stone (founded by Robert Lord Stafford in 1100; parts of the building form the foundation of the present parsonage-house); Thomas, St. (founded by Gerard de Stafford in 1162); Trentham (founded by Robert Earl of Chester in 1218); Tutbury (founded by Henry de Ferrers in 1081); and Wolverhampton (founded by Wulfrena, relict of Aldhelm, Duke of Northampton, in 996). Nunneries of Blithbury (founded by Hugh Mavesyn); Breewood, or Black Ladies (founded by Isabel Launder); Carswall Castle (created into a nunnery in 1811 by some French emigrant nuns, who first settled at Preston, co. Lancashire); Fairwell (founded by Bishop Clinton in 1140); Stone (founded by Ermenilda, wife of King Wulfhere, afterwards a priory); Tamworth (on the site of which the church now stands); and White Ladies (founded in 1195 by Hubert Walter). Churches of Audley; Barton (built 20 Henry VIII. by John Taylor); Burslem; Byshbury; Carswall; Checkley; Colwich; Clifton Camville (the spire one of the finest in the kingdom); Draycote; Elford; Gayton; Gnosal (Saxon style); Kinver (very ancient); Lichfield, St. Chad's (supposed to have been erected by the Romans), St. Mary's (founded in 855); Madely; Mavesine-Ridware; Muckleston (lofty tower); Pipe-Ridware; Rushall; Sandon; Stafford, St. Mary's (early style of Pointed architecture), St. Chad's (very ancient); Stoke (of the Saxon style); Tettenhall (handsome); Trysall (on the tower is sculptured the figure of a bishop); Wednesbury; and Wolstanton. Chapels of Amington (in ruins); Aston, Little; Burston (founded by Ermenilda, the foundress of Stone Nunnery); Burton (erected by Edward II. in memory of his victory over the Earl of Lancaster at this place); Clent (on the site of the place where the body of St. Kenelm was buried; very ancient Saxon); Fazeley (long gone to decay); Kinver (erected by the Hamptons, temp. Edward III.); Packington (long dilapidated); Spittal, Tamworth (converted into a barn); and Stonywell (built by Bishop Stonywell). Fonts of Ashley; Lichfield, St. Chad's; Pipe-Ridware (sculptured with circles interlaced); Norton-under-Cannock; Stafford, St. Mary's; Tettenhall (beautifully ornamented); and Wolverhampton (sculptured with numerous figures). Stone Pulpit of Wolverhampton (peculiarly beautiful). Castles of Alveton (built by Theob. de Verdon in 1300; destroyed in the civil

wars); Audley (no remains); Bonebury (built by Ceolrid, King of Mercia, in 716); Burgh, Maer (composed of a double trench and rampire, supposed to have been built by Kenrid, King of Mercia); Burton (built by Henry de Ferrers in 1070); Cannock (the occasional residence of the first kings of the Norman race); Carswall (built by Sir William de Carswall, temp. Edward II.; at present a nunnery); Chartley (built by Richard de Blondeville, Earl of Chester, in 1220; in ruins); Chesterton (existed before temp. William I.; in ruins); Croxden (founded 1179 by Bertram de Verdon); Darlaston (supposed to have been the residence of Wulfhere, King of Mercia); Dudley (fortified by Gervase Paganel, 3 Stephen, for Maud the Empress); Eccleshall (rebuilt in 1310 by Walter de Langton, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry); Heleigh (built by Henry de Audley in 1200); Lichfield (levelled with the ground); Newcastle (founded by Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, younger son of Henry III.; scarce a vestige remains); Stafford (built in 913 by Ethelfleda, a countess of Mercia), another the baronial castle (built by Ralph, first Earl of Stafford); Stourton (built by Robert, Earl of Stafford, in 1087); Tamworth (erected on the site of Ethelfleda's Tower); Tirley (on the borders of Shropshire); Tutbury (built by John of Gaunt in 1358); and Wednesbury (built by Adelfleda, Governess of the Mercian kingdom in 916). Mansions of Bentley (in which Charles II. took refuge after the battle of Worcester); Boscobel House (the refuge of Charles II. after the same battle); Brinsford (in which Lord Wilmot took refuge after the same battle); Eccleshall (the seat of the Bosville family, converted into a farm house); Holbeach (the property of the Waltons, and in which Littleton and others concerned in the powder plot were taken); and Moseley Hall (in which Charles II. took refuge after the battle of Worcester). Caves of Biddulph (artificial); and Thor's Cavern, Manifold (a large excavation on the side of a lofty precipice, 30 feet high and 44 long, supposed to have been the place of sacrifice of the Druids).

Present State and Appearance.

Rivers.—Blythe, Borne, Chernet, Dane, Dove, Hamps, Ilam, Lime, Manifold, Penk, Smestall, Sow, Stour, Tame, Tern, and Trent.

Inland Navigation.—Birmingham, Coventry and Oxford, Dudley Tunnel and Netherton, Grand Trunk (to Hare Castle Hill, under ground 2,880 yards), Gresley's (Sir Nigel), Staffordshire and Worcester, Stourbridge, Trent and Mersey, and Wyrley and Essington canals.

Lakes.—Aqualate (1,848 yards long and 672 broad), Eccleshall Pool, Ladford Pool (said to comprehend about 60 acres), Lush Pool, Maer Pool, and New Pool.

Eminences and Views.—Ashley Heath (803 feet high), Barr Beacon 653 feet high), Barrow Cop Hill (very extensive), Beaudesert Park (a

delightful prospect of nine different counties), Castle Ring (715 feet high), Knaves Castle, Cannock Heath; Sherholt Park, Tamworth Castle, Tutbury Castle, and Weaver Hill (1,154 feet high).

Natural Curiosities.—Alstonfield (the source of the River Dove); Bradley (the earth on fire); Codsall sulphurous springs; Erasmus' (St.) Well, between Ingestrie and Stafford; Enstone spring of weak brine; Maer (the source of the river Tern); Modswell Well, near Canwell Priory; Newcastle (the source of the river Sow); Penk River rises in Cuddleston Hundred; Shopnall chalybeate spring; Tame River rises in Seisdon Hundred; Trent River rises from New Pool, at Knipersley, and from two springs near Molecap and Norton Hay; Western salt and sulphur springs; and Willow Bridge medicinal spring (originally discovered by Lady Bromley).

Public Edifices.—Abbot's Bromley Free School, founded in 1603; Brewood Free Grammar School, founded by Dr. Knightley; Burton-upon-Trent, bridge of thirty-six arches, 1,545 feet long; Free Grammar School, founded in 1520 by William Beane; Cheadle Free School; Dilhorne Free Grammar School; Elford Bridge across the Tame, handsome; Falkesley Bridge over the Tame, through which the Watling Street passes at its entrance into the county; Harborne Charity School; Haywood Bridge, of forty arches; Lichfield Guildhall; Free Grammar School, founded by Bishop Smith in 1495, refounded by Edward VI.; English Free School, endowed by Thomas Minors, Esq., in 1670; the New Theatre in Boar Street; Gaol; Botanic Garden, formed by Dr. Darwin; Newcastle Free Grammar School, founded temp. Elizabeth by John Cotton, Gent., of Alkington, co. Salop, the present one erected in 1722; Free School, erected in 1704 by Edward Orme, clerk; Over Penn Charity School, founded by Rev. C. Wynn, vicar of that place in 1714; Penkridge Charity School; Rolleston Free School, founded about 1520 by R. Sherebourne, Bishop of Chichester; Rugeley Charity School, founded by J. B. Cowper; Stafford County Hall, built in 1794; County Gaol, built in 1793; County Infirmary, built in 1777; Lunatic Asylum, built in 1817; Free School, founded by Edward VI. in 1550; Stone Free Grammar School, founded in 1558 by Thomas Allen, the eminent mathematician; Tamworth Free Grammar School, restored by Elizabeth in 1588; Tixall Bridge, over the Trent, consisted of forty-two arches; Uttoxeter Free School, founded in 1558 by Thomas Allen, the mathematician—Stone Bridge, connecting this county with Derby; Walsall Free School, founded by Queen Mary in 1553; Whichnor Bridge, built temp. Henry III., destroyed by a flood in 1795, and the present one soon after erected; Wolverhampton Free School, founded in 1515 by Sir Stephen Jenyns, Knt., Alderman of London.

Seats.—Ingestrie Hall, Earl Talbot, Lord-Lieutenant of the County; Abbeville Park, Lord Gardner; Acton Hill, George Hadderton,

Esq. ; Aldershaw, — Hill, Esq. ; Arley Hall, Earl of Mountnorris ; Armitage Park, T. Lister, Esq. ; Ashcomb Hall, Wm. Sneyd, Esq. ; Ashenhurst Hall, J. Leigh, Esq. ; Aston Hall, near Sandon, Rev. T. Grafton ; Ball Hay, Leek, Dr. Hulme ; Basford Hall, near Wetley, Wm. Sneyd, Esq. ; Basford Farm, Alexander Bower, Esq. ; Batchacre, Earl Whitworth ; Beaudesert Park, Marquis of Anglesea ; Bellamore, Lichfield, Edward Blount, Esq. ; Belmont, Rev. W. Carlisle ; Berry Hill Cottage, Swinfen, — Stanley, Esq. ; Betley House, Sir John-Fletcher-Fenton Boughey, Bart. ; Bishton Hall, Rugeley, John Sparrow, Esq. ; Black Lion Hill, Hugh Booth, Esq. ; Blithfield House, Lord Bagot ; Bonehill House, near Fazeley, E. Peel, Esq. ; Bonehill Cottage, W. Peel, Esq. ; Boscobel House, Mr. Evans ; Bradley Hall, Edward Anson, Esq. ; Brereton, Miss Sneyd ; Broadwall Hall, William Sneyd, Esq. ; Brockton Hall, Eccleshall, William Eld, Esq. ; Brocton Hall, Milford, Sir George Chetwynd, Bart. ; Brocton Lodge, G. Chetwynd, Esq. ; Brook House, Wetley Rocks, Henry Powis, Esq. ; Broom's Cottage, W. B. Meeke, Esq. ; Broughton, Sir J. Delves Broughton, Bart. ; Burton-upon-Trent, T. Greatorex, Esq. ; Butterton Hall, Thomas Swinnerton, Esq. ; Canwell, Beilby Lawley, Esq. ; Charlemont Hall, T. Price, Esq. ; Chartley Castle, Earl Ferrers ; Cheddleton Park, Rev. E. Powys ; Chillington, Thomas Giffard, Esq. ; Cliff Ville, John Tomlinson, Esq. ; Clough Hall, Thomas Kinnersley, Esq. ; Colwich Hall, Rev. J. Granville ; Colwich Mount, W. Bagot, Esq. ; Comberford Hall, William Tongue, Esq. ; Consall Hall, near Wetley Rocks, J. Leigh, Esq. ; Crakemarsh Hall, near Uttoxeter, Thomas C. Sheppard, Esq. ; Creswell Hall, near Great Bridgeford, Rev. T. Whitby ; Crewe Hall, Lord Crewe ; Darlaston Hall, Captain Trelawny ; Dilhorn Hall, F. B. Y. Buller, Esq. ; Dimsdale, J. Bennett, Esq. ; Dorford Hall, H. Tomkinson, Esq. ; Dovebridge, near Uttoxeter, Lord Waterpark ; Drakelow, Sir Roger Gresley, Bart. ; Drayton Park, Sir Robert Peel, Bart. ; Eccleshall Castle, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry ; Elford, near Lichfield, Hon. Col. Howard ; Elmhurst Hall, Lichfield, J. Smith, Esq. ; Endon Ashes, — Chricklow, Esq. ; Enville Hall, Earl of Stamford and Warrington ; Etruria, Josiah Wedgwood, Esq. ; Farley Hall, John Bill, Esq. ; Fenton Hall, Thomas Allen, Esq. ; Fotherley Hall, Weeford, Rev. Mr. Phillips ; Freeford Hall, R. Dyott, Esq. ; Great Barr Hall, Sir Joseph Scott, Bart. , Hagley, Earl Howe ; Hagley Park, Hon. R. Curzon ; Hamstead Hall, W. Wallis, Esq. ; Handsworth, J. Spencer, Esq. ; Handsworth, W. G. Clarke, Esq. ; Handsworth, J. Grice, Esq. ; Handsworth, Rev. J. L. Freer ; Haunch Hall, Lichfield, Gen. Dyott ; Heathfield House, Handsworth, Mrs. Watt ; Hilcott Hall, Eccleshall, Mrs. Johnson ; Hill Hall, Swinfen, — Riddell, Esq. ; Hilton, J. G. Smythe, Esq. ; Hints, C. H. C. Floyer, Esq. ; Hough House, Rev. Robert Hill ; Huntley Hall, Captain Sneyd ; Keel Hall, Colonel Sneyd ; Knipersley, Sir Roger

Gresley, Bart.; Knowle House, Swinfen, — Holland, Esq.; Lea Hall, J. Webb, Esq.; Lichfield Palace, Sir C. Oakley, Bart.; Linley Wood, J. Caldwell, Esq.; Liswiss Hall, near Lichfield, Mrs. Tyson; Loxley Park, T. Sneyd Kynnersley, Esq.; Madeley Park, Weston Yonge, Esq.; Maple Hayes, J. Atkinson, Esq.; Meaford Hall, E. J. Ricketts, Esq.; Merivale, Thomas Herrick, Esq.; Middleton Hall, F. Lawley, Esq.; Milford Hall, R. Levett, Esq.; Milford Cottage, Rev. R. Levett; Millfield, Rev. F. Blick; Morton House, J. Hanbury, Esq.; Newcastle, Sir John-Fletcher-Fenton Boughey, Bart.; Newcastle Cloughs, Rev. J. B. Basnett; Newcastle Mount, Josiah Spode, Esq.; Oakeley, Sir John Chetwode, Bart.; Packington Hall, near Hopwas, Rev. T. Levett; Parkhouse, Wolseley Bridge, T. Mackenzie, Esq.; Patteshul, Sir George Pigott, Bart.; Perry Hall, Byshbury, John Gough, Esq.; Petsall, Sir George Dallas, Bart.; Prestwood House, J. H. H. Foley, Esq.; Ravenhill, Colonel Madan; Rolleston, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.; Rushall Hall, Sir George Anson, K.C.B.; Sandon Hall, Earl of Harrowby; Sandwell Park, Earl of Dartmouth; Seighford Hall, Francis Eld, Esq.; Shenstone Park, Weeford, E. Grove, Esq.; Shenstone Lodge, Captain Parker; Shenstone Hall, — Cooke, Esq.; Smethwick, J. Reynolds, Esq.; Smethwick Grove, J. L. Moillies, Esq.; Soho, near Handsworth, M. R. Boulton, Esq.; Somerford Hall, near Wolverhampton, Hon. Edward Monckton; Stapenhall, — Daniel, Esq.; Stapenhall, R. Piel, Esq.; Stonyfield, Mrs. Bent; Swinfen Hall, J. Swinfen, Esq.; Swinnerton Park, T. Fitzherbert, Esq.; Tamworth Castle, Marquis Townshend; Teddesley Park, Edward Littleton, Esq.; Tettenhall, Rev. G. H. Thursley; Tettenhall, F. Holyoake, Esq.; Tettenhall, J. Pearson, Esq.; Tettenhall, P. T. Hinckes, Esq.; Thickbroom Cottage, Weeford, Admiral Manley; Tellington House, Eccleshall, W. Locker, Esq.; Tixall, near Lichfield, Viscount Granville; Tixall, Sir Thomas Hugh Clifford, Bart.; Trentham Hall, Marquis of Stafford, Custos Rotulorum of the County; Walton, Sir William Congreve, Bart., F.R.S.; Walton, Edward Miller Munday, Esq.; Watlands, Spencer Rogers, Esq.; Wergs, The, Richard Fryer, Esq.; Weston Hall, Earl of Bradford; Westwood, — Goldsmid, Esq.; Wichdon Lodge, W. Moore, Esq.; Wigginton Lodge, Mrs. Clarke; Wolseley, Sir Charles Wolseley, Bart.; Wolverhampton, J. Hodern, Esq.; Wolverhampton, Thomas Perry, Esq.; Woodhead, Thomas Honeyborne, Esq.; Wooton Hall, Colonel Wilson; Wrottesley Hall, Sir John Wrottesley, Bart.; Wyrley Grove, Phineas Hussey, Esq.

Produce.—Coal, iron-stone, quarry-stone, lead, alabaster, limestone, marble, copper, iron, corn, fish, excellent sand for making glass.

Manufactures.—Earthenware, hats, glass toys, japanned goods, enamelled goods, Queen's ware, potter's ware, cotton, silk, leather, woollen, linen, blue brick and tile works, iron, brass, and tin works,

morlu or bronze articles. The watch-chains, edge-tools, files, chapes, augers, buckles, and steel toys are unrivalled.

[1823, *Part II., pp.* 105-108.]

HISTORY.

A.D. 286, in a field called "Christian Field," at Stitchbrook, near Lichfield, is supposed to have occurred the dreadful massacre of several thousand Christians under Diocletian.

A.D. 705, a battle was fought near Maer, between Kenred, King of Mercia, and Osrid, King of Northumbria.

A.D. 716, Ceolrid, King of Mercia, invaded by Ina, King of the West Saxons, at which time he erected Bonebury fortress.

A.D. 826, Kenelm, King of Mercia, murdered in a field, now called Cowbach, at Clent, by order of his elder sister, Quendrida.

A.D. 895, the Danes came up the Severn as far as Bridgenorth, and committed great ravages on the coasts of this county.

A.D. 910, a battle was fought at Tettenhall between the Danes and Edward the Elder, in which the Saxons were victorious. Henry of Huntingdon relates it as so horrible and sanguinary as no language can sufficiently describe. The Northumbrians were surprised into a fixed battle at Wednesfield by the Saxons, and were defeated, with the slaughter of many thousand men. Two of their kings fell—Halfden and Eowils, the brother of the celebrated Hinguar, and many earls and officers. The Saxons sang hymns on the victory.

A.D. 924, the ceremony of the marriage between Sigtryg, the son of Ivar, to the sister of Athelstan, was celebrated with great magnificence at Tamworth.

A.D. 941, Anlaf, the Northumbrian prince, assaulted Tamworth.

A.D. 1175, Dudley Castle demolished as a punishment for Paganel being in rebellion with Prince Henry.

A.D. 1255, Burton nearly burnt to the ground.

A.D. 1322, Tutbury Castle seized by the Crown, on account of the rebellion of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, against Edward II. Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, defeated at Burton, pursued to Pontefract, taken prisoner and beheaded.

A.D. 1397, Richard II. confined in Lichfield Castle. The Christmas before he kept here.

A.D. 1459, at Bloreheath was fought a desperate battle between the houses of York and Lancaster, in which Lord Audley, the commander of Henry's forces, was slain, as were nearly all of the Cheshiremen.

A.D. 1575, Queen Elizabeth visited Lichfield, Chartley, Stafford, and Chillington.

A.D. 1617, Gerard's Bromley, Tixall, and Hore Cross visited by King James, who was at Tamworth in 1619 and at Whichnor in 1621 and 1624.

A.D. 1640, Mr. Pitt, of Wolverhampton, endeavoured to bribe Captain Tuthall, Governor of Rushall, to betray the garrison for £2,000, but the captain discovered the treachery, for which Mr. Pitt suffered.

A.D. 1643, Stafford Castle taken from the Royalists by Sir William Brereton, the Parliamentarian General, and soon after demolished. Keel House ordered to be demolished by Captain Barbar's soldiers. Upon St. Arnon's Heath, under Beacon Hill (which is remarkable for a vast collection of stones on its summit), a sharp action was fought between a party of Royalists, under the Earl of Northampton, and the Parliamentarians, under Sir J. Gell and Sir W. Brereton, in which the Earl's horse being shot under him, he was surrounded and slain. Eccleshall Castle besieged by Brereton, who defeated Colonel Hastings (who attempted to relieve it, killing and taking 200 horse). Lichfield Close was besieged by Lord Brook, who lost his life in the attempt; but it was immediately after given up to Sir J. Gell, who was soon obliged to give it up to Prince Rupert.

A.D. 1644, Dudley Castle besieged by the Parliamentarians, when, after a resistance of three weeks, it was relieved (June 11) by some of the king's forces from Worcester. The rebels left one hundred men dead in the field, and two majors, two captains, two lieutenants, and fifty privates were taken prisoners. Stourton Castle surrendered to the king. Captain Stone marched (February 14) against Patteshull House, which had a Popish garrison and was strongly fortified, taking advantage of the drawbridge being down, surprised the sentinels, fell on the garrison, killed many, took Mr. Astle, the governor, two Jesuits, and sixty more prisoners. Colonel Bagot attacked by the Parliamentarians at Lord Paget's Manor-house, near Burton-upon-Trent, but without success, for Colonel Bagot attacked them so bravely that he made them fly. He pursued and killed of them enough to fill sixteen carts.

A.D. 1646, Dudley Castle surrendered to Sir William Brereton by Colonel Leveson, the governor, for the King. Tutbury Castle reduced to ruins by the Parliamentarians. When the King's affairs were totally ruined, Lichfield Close surrendered.

A.D. 1651, by authority of the "Rump," Lichfield Cathedral was resolved to be destroyed, which was commenced, but not finished.

A.D. 1745, William, Duke of Cumberland, drew up his army on a large tract of ground called Stonefield, near Stone, in daily expectation of an engagement with the forces of the Pretender.

Eminent Natives.

Allen, Thomas, celebrated mathematician, Uttoxeter, 1542.
Anson, Lord George, circumnavigator, Shugborough, 1697.
Asheburn, Thomas, zealous opponent of Wickliffe, Stafford.

Ashmole, Elias, skilled in chemistry, antiquities, heraldry, mathematics, and what not, Lichfield, 1617.

Ashmole, Simeon, Nonconformist divine (died 1662).

Astle, Thomas, antiquary, Yoxall, 1735.

Audley, Edmund, Bishop of Rochester, Hereford, and Salisbury.

Audley, Lord James, distinguished warrior, Heleigh, 1314.

Basset, William, Justice of the Common Pleas, 12 Edward III.

Blake, Thomas, Puritan and Parliamentarian, 1597.

Browne, Isaac Hawkins, elegant poet, Burton-upon-Trent, 1705-1706.

Buckeridge, Theophilus, antiquary and learned writer, Lichfield, 1724.

Butt, George, dramatic writer, Lichfield, 1741.

Caldwall, Richard, celebrated physician, 1513.

Camden, Sampson, father of the learned author of "Magna Britannia."

Cotton, Charles, celebrated poet, Beresford, 1630.

Degge, Sir Simon, Knt., civilian and antiquary, Uttoxeter, 1612.

Dilke, Thomas, dramatic writer, Lichfield, about 1699.

Doody, Samuel, ingenious botanist (died 1706).

Erdeswicke, Sampson, genealogist, and historian of his native county, Sandon (died 1603).

Erdinton, Giles, "Justice in the Court at Westminster," temp. Henry III.

Fenner, William, theological writer (died 1640).

Fenton, Elijah, poet, contemporary with Pope and Shelton, near Newcastle, 1683.

Fitzherbert, Thomas, learned writer and advocate of Mary Queen of Scots, Stafford (flourished sixteenth century).

Floyer, Sir John, eminent physician, Hinters, 1649.

Gardner, Lord, celebrated admiral, Uttoxeter, 1742.

Giffard, William, Archbishop of Rheims (died 1629).

Goodwin, John, the celebrated Arminian, Newcastle, 1593.

Guy, Thomas, founder of Guy's Hospital, Southwark, Tamworth.

Hammersley, Sir Hugh, Lord Mayor of London in 1627, Stafford.

Harvey, Sir James, Lord Mayor of London in 1581, Cottwalton.

Hillary, Roger, Justice of Common Pleas.

Hurd, Richard, eminent and accomplished Bishop of Worcester, Congreve, 1720.

James, Dr. Robert, inventor of the fever powders bearing his name, Kinverton, 1703.

Jenyns, Sir Stephen, Lord Mayor of London in 1508, Wolverhampton.

Jervis, Earl of St. Vincent, most celebrated admiral, Meaford Hall, 1734.

Jesson, Thomas, a poor priest, Tettenhall.

Johnson, Samuel, critic, poet, biographer, moralist, and lexicographer, Lichfield, 1709.

King, Gregory, herald and political economist.

Lichfield, William de, divine, Lichfield (died 1447).

Lightfoot, Dr. John, learned divine, one of the persons who completed the "Polyglott Bible," Stoke-upon-Trent, 1602.

Lightfoot, Thomas, divine, and father of the learned Dr. J. Lightfoot, Shelton (died 1658).

Littleton, Thomas, celebrated judge, temp. Henry VI.

Meadowcroft, Rev. R., critic and annotator on Milton, 1697.

Minors, William Seaman; he went eleven times to the East Indies and back, Uttoxeter.

Mountfort, William, dramatic writer and actor, 1659.

Newton, Thomas, Bishop of Bristol, and author of the "Dissertations on the Prophecies," Lichfield, 1703.

Noel, Martin, benefactor, Stafford.

Paget, William Lord, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Wednesbury (died 1564).

Parker, Lord Chief Baron, Parkhall.

Parsons, William, gigantic porter of James I., West Bromwich.

Patteshull, Hugh de, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry from 1240 to 1243, Patteshull.

Patteshull, Martin de, Justice in the Courts at Westminster, 2 Henry III.

Pipe, Sir Richard, Lord Mayor of London in 1578, Wolverhampton.

Pole, Reginald, Cardinal, Archbishop of Canterbury, Stourton Castle, 1500.

Rider, Sir William, Lord Mayor of London in 1600, Mucclestone.

Robins, John, mathematician (died 1558).

Salt, Henry, Esq., Consul-General in Egypt, Lichfield.

Shareshull, William de, Justice of the Common Pleas, 12 Edward III.

Shaw, Rev. Stebbing, historian of his native county, Stone, 1762.

Sheldon, Gilbert, Archbishop of Canterbury, Stanton, 1598.

Sherebourne, Robert, Bishop of Chichester, Rolleston.

Slaney, Sir Stephen, Lord Mayor of London in 1595, Mitton.

Smallridge, George, Bishop of Bristol, Lichfield, 1666.

Somerville, Mr., poet, Wolseley, 1675.

Stafford, Edmund, Archbishop of York and Chancellor of England, Stafford (died 1419).

Stafford, John, historian and Franciscan Friar, Stafford (flourished fourteenth century).

Stonywell, John, a man of learning, Abbot of Pershore, Stonywell (died 1553).

Stonywell, John, S.T.P., Stonywell (died 1518).

Taylor, John, builder of Barton Church, Barton.
Walton, Isaac, celebrated angler, Stafford, 1593.
Wedgwood, Josiah, the ingenious potter, 1731.
Whittington, Robert, grammarian, Lichfield (flourished 1530).
Wilkes, Richard, M.D., ingenious and industrious antiquary (died 1760).
Wittenhall, Edward, Bishop of Cork, Tixall (died 1713).
Wolferstan, Samuel Pipe, eminent antiquary, Statfold, 18—.
Wollaston, William, a distinguished philosophical writer, Coton Clamford, 1659.
Wyatt, James, eminent architect, Burton, 1743.
Wyrley, William, author of "The True Use of Armoury," etc., 1674. S. T.

[1823, *Part II., pp.* 217-222.]

Miscellaneous Remarks.

This county has always been noted for the longevity of its inhabitants; some of the most remarkable are given under the heads of the places in which they occur. The original Calendar of the Norwegians and Danes still obtains in this county, under the appellation of "Staffordshire Clogg." For a particular description of these Cloggs, see *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1812, Part II., p. 109, where there is an engraving of one.

At Abbot's Bromley a remarkable custom, called the hobby-horse dance, existed, as well as at Stafford and Leighford. In the parlour window of the Manor House, called Hall Hill, Mary Queen of Scots' passage through this place is recorded.

At Adbaston died, November 28, 1714, William Wakeley, of Outlands, aged 125 years.

At Alrewas, on January 4, 1675, at night, a terrible earthquake was felt.

At Alstonfield, Cotton the poet and Izaak Walton delighted to ramble. Near it Cotton built a small fishing-house, dedicated to anglers, a particular account of which is inserted in Part I., p. 603.

In Ashley Church are monuments to the memory of some of the Lords Gerrards.

In Audley Church are monuments to Edward Vernon, 1622, and Sir Thomas de Audley.

Barr-Beacon is supposed to have derived its name from "Barrah," to eat sacrifice, or to purify, and to have been the spot whence the Druidical priests gave notices of their sacrifices at Druidheath.

Beaudesert Park in 1815 was honoured by a visit of his present Majesty, the Duke of Clarence, and the Archdukes John and Lewis.

From Bentley, Charles II. was conducted on horseback by Jane

Lane, the memorable daughter of Thomas Lane, Esq., beyond Bristol, as her valet, in which dangerous service she carried herself with great address and fortitude. At the Restoration the Parliament allowed her £1,000 for this service.

Biddulph presents some curious remains of antiquity. The bride-stones consist of eight upright free-stones, two of which stand within a semicircle, formed by the other six. The outside stones are 6 feet from each other. Near them is the pavement of an artificial cave, composed of fragments of stone, about 2½ inches thick; two large unhewn freestones, about 18 feet long and 6 high, form the sides of this cave.

Bilston is remarkable for the imposture of William Perry, a boy thirteen years of age, who practised numerous cheats; among others he made inky water, either from a habit of idleness or to serve the purpose of the Popish exorcists, till Bishop Morton made him confess the cheat.

At Blore Heath a wooden cross was erected to commemorate the spot where Lord Audley fell, which, being thrown down, the Lord of the Manor, Charles Boothby Skrymsher, Esq., in 1765 ordered a stone pedestal to be placed there with a cross upon it. The church contains numerous memorials of the illustrious family of the Bassetts, some of which are very beautiful, but are, however, rapidly approaching to ruin.

At Blythbridge was the house of the learned antiquary, Sir Simon Degge, in which he resided at the end of a long life, and there died, aged 92.

In Boscobel Wood was the large oak in which Charles II. and his faithful Pendrell sheltered themselves among the leaves and branches for four and twenty hours.

At Breewood King John once kept his court. At the Free Grammar School was educated Bishop Hurd, Sir Edw. Littleton, Dr. J. Smith, etc.

At Bromley died, in 1057, at an advanced age, Leofric, 5th Earl of Mercia, the husband of the famous Godiva.

Burston Chapel was erected in memory of Rufin, second son of Wulfere, King of Mercia, who was slain here by his father in consequence of his conversion to Christianity.

At Burton, in 1255, the greatest part of the town was consumed by an accidental fire. It is recorded in the Register that on November 15 and 16, 1574, the aurora borealis was seen. In 1793 a night-watch first established here. In the years 1771, 1792, 1795, and 1798, inundated by the Trent.

In Bushbury Church is the tomb of Thomas Whitgreave, Esq., remarkable for his faithful protection of Charles II.

At Bury Bank, Darlaston, are the ruins of an ancient fortress; its area is supposed to have been a sort of prætorium, and to have

been the residence of Wulfere from 656 to 675; hence its old name, Ulfercester.

The curacy of Cannock was the first preferment of the famous Dr. Sacheverell.

The site of Canwell Priory is now occupied by stables. The well, called Modswell's Well, near the Priory, is famous for the cure of weakness and diseases; hence the name Canwell, from *Can*, signifying efficacy.

In Caverswall Church is a monument to the builder of the castle, with a Latin inscription, under which was written, many years after, some punning lines.

Chartley is remarkable for having been for some time the prison of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots; and here was a bed wrought by her during her confinement. Here it is said she carried on and contrived her correspondence with the Pope.

On the site of Clent Chapel was buried St. Kenelm, who was murdered in a field close by:

> "In Clent in Cowbach, under a thorn,
> Lieth King Kenelme, with his head off shorn."

On the wall of the chapel is sculptured the figure of a child with a crown over its head, and above the door is a figure of a man much mutilated, both conferring benediction.

In Clifton Church lies the body of its founder and his wife; also several monuments to the family of Vernon.

In the beautiful church of Codsall is a noble monument in honour of Walter Wrottesley.

In Colwich Church are monuments of the families of Anson and Wolseley. The burying-place of the Ansons is in the form of an Egyptian catacomb.

In Croxden Abbey the heart of King John was buried, as were most of the descendants of Bertram de Verdon, the founder.

At Drayton was the curious old house (now given way for a modern one) in which the powerful and accomplished Earls of Essex often resided.

In the church of Dudley Priory were many fair monuments of the Somerys and Suttons, and especially one very old; the figure measured 8 feet, supposed to have been one of the Somerys.

Eccleshall Church is remarkable as having been the place where Bishop Halse concealed Queen Margaret after she fled from Muckleston. It contains some monuments of the Bosvile family, whose ancient seat, Byam, situated to the north-east of the palace, was afterwards converted into a farmhouse.

At Ediall, near Lichfield, Dr. Samuel Johnson "boarded and taught the Latin and Greek languages" to "young gentlemen"; and there the celebrated David Garrick and his brother George became his pupils.

In Edinghall Parsonage resided the learned antiquary Theophilus Buckeridge, until he removed to the mastership of St. John's Hospital, Lichfield.

In Elford Church are some splendid monuments to the Ardernes, Stantons, Stanleys, and Smiths.

The whole of the delightful scenery at Enville, the seat of the Earl of Stamford, was designed by the poet Shenstone.

At Fauld died, April 6, 1645, William Burton, the historian of Leicestershire.

Fetherston was the residence of John Huntbach, the nephew of Sir William Dugdale, and whose knowledge of the antiquities of this county was very extensive.

Ford Houses, Wyaston, was once the property of Erasmus Darwin, M.D., the poet and philosopher.

In Hamstal Ridware manor-house is preserved a curious old iron cage, in which the heads of scolding women were placed to enforce silence, called a "brank" (see Fosbroke's "Encyclopedia of Antiquities," p. 237).

At Hanbury, in 1777, a smart shock of an earthquake was felt.

Near Handsacre Sir William Handsacre was killed by Sir Robert Mavesyn and his party, who afterwards lost his life with the gallant Percy, 1403.

James Sands, of Harborne, died December 6, 1588, aged 140, having outlived five leases of a farm of twenty-one years each; his wife lived to 120 years of age.

Harborough was the place where the poet Shenstone passed his early years, and it is celebrated in his poems.

Ilam is noted for the tomb, well, and ash of St. Bertram, who is said to have performed many stupendous miracles here; the ash was much venerated by the common people, who considered it dangerous to break a bough of it. This saint, ash, well, or tomb, is now little thought of. In a grotto here the celebrated Congreve wrote his first and best comedy of the "Old Bachelor."

At Kingston was buried that learned antiquary and civilian Sir Simon Degge.

At Lane End died, in 1769, aged 107, Lydia Barber, and in 1774, aged 124, Rosamond Cook.

The learned Thomas Loxdale was Vicar of Leek about 1730.

Lichfield was honoured with the particular notice of Charles I. A great plague raged here in 1593, which carried off above 1,100 inhabitants. Here was a mint granted by Stephen to Walter, Bishop of Coventry. In this his native city Dr. Johnson began and finished his tragedy of "Irene." At the Episcopal Palace died, March 25, 1807, the celebrated Miss Anna Seward. Near the Close was a famous willow, the delight of Johnson's "early and waning life" (I use his own words), and even still more so of Miss Seward's; it was

the ornament of Stowe Valley—the subject of every writer, the gratification of every naturalist, and the admiration of every traveller. Dr. Johnson never visited this city but he proceeded to his favourite willow, a description of which, drawn up by Dr. Jones, at the desire of Dr. Johnson, is in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1783. In the Grammar School was educated the elegant Addison, Elias Ashmole, the antiquary, Hawkins Browne, the poet, the Rev. Theophilus Buckeridge, David Garrick, the inimitable actor, Dr. James, the inventor of the "Fever Powder," Dr. Johnson, Gregory King, the heraldic writer, Sir Richard Lloyd, Baron of the Exchequer, Bishop Newton, Mr. Justice Noel, Lord Chief Baron Parker, Bishop Smalridge, Lord Chief Justice Willes, and Lord Chief Justice Wilmot.

At Longdon died Mr. May, aged 108, and a woman aged 109.

In Madely Church are several monuments to the memory of the Egertons, afterwards Earls of Wilton, and of the Offleys, great benefactors to this parish.

At Maer died, in 1693, aged 138, Mr. Richard Wilson. The cloth for the Communion-table in the church is an old Turkey carpet, the gift of Margaret Tether to this church in 1639, and brought by her from Constantinople.

In Mavesin Ridware Church are several monuments in honour of the Mavesyns, some of which have been opened at different periods. The altar-tomb of Sir Robert Mavesyn, who slew Sir William Handsacre, is very handsome.

Upon the lofty tower of Muckleston Church the spirited, but unfortunate, Margaret of Anjou beheld the battle at Blore Heath, so fatal to her cause.

In Needwood Forest is an old oak, called the "Swilcar Oak," celebrated by poets and botanists as the monarch of the rest of the oak-trees in the forest.

At Newcastle, Plot saw a solid block of stone which exhibited the petrified skull of a human being, probably of some malefactor who had been executed here, the spot where it was found being still called "gallows tree," in memory of its ancient appropriation.

At Norton-le-Moors, in the possession of the Rev. Dr. Turner, is the original death-warrant of Charles I., with all the signatures of his judges.

At the seat of the Stanleys at Okely, Edward IV. was a frequent visitor for the amusement of hunting, and where the Earl of Richmond slept on his way from Lichfield to Bosworth Field.

At Okeover Hall is the celebrated painting of the Holy Family by Urbino, valued at 1,500 guineas.

Henry Gough, Esq., nephew of Sir Richard Gough, Knt., of Perry Barr, was father of Richard Gough, Esq., "the second Camden."

The original endowment of Rolleston Free Grammar School, written in black letter and illuminated, is preserved in a small wooden cabinet in the schoolroom.

In Rushall Church are buried several of the family of Leigh, one of whom, the author of "Critica Sacra," who died in 1671, is buried in the chancel.

Sandon was the birthplace, residence, and burial-place of the learned antiquary and genealogist Sampson Erdeswick, who died in 1613. In the church is the monument to his memory. The inscription is long and singular. There is also a tomb in honour of George Digby, who, in resentment of the insult offered to James I. by Scioppus, a German, attacked the offender in the streets of Madrid in 1614, and nearly murdered him.

At Stafford was a mint established temp. William I. The ancient custom of Borough English still prevails here. In St. Mary's Church are some ancient monuments to the Astons of Tixall, and one to Lady Barbara Compton. Here St. Bertilline, scholar of St. Guthlac, led an heremitical life.

In the room at Stanton in which Archbishop Sheldon drew his first breath are the following iambics, written by Bishop Hacket:

> "Sheldonus ille Præsulum primus pater
> Hos inter ortus aspicit lucem Lares;
> O ter beatam Stantonis villæ casam,
> Cui cuncta possunt invidere marmora."

At Stonall is the shire oak-tree, once celebrated by Swift.

Stone Nunnery was erected in memory of Wulfad, who was slain here by his father Wulfere for embracing Christianity. In the churchyard is a spacious cemetery of the Jervis family, Earls of St. Vincent.

In Bishop Stoniwell's Chapel are monuments of the Arblasters and Ormes. On the floor is an ancient stone to Bishop Stoniwell, the founder, dated 1553.

Stowe Church was once remarkable for numerous monuments to the family of Devereux, only one of which, the tomb of Walter, first Viscount Hereford, who died in 1558, yet remains.

At Tamworth died, in 920, Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred. In the hall of the castle was formerly an old rude delineation upon the wall of the last battle of Launcelot of the Lake, a knight of Arthur's Round Table, and Sir Turquin. In it was also a richly-sculptured chimney-piece. This castle is surrounded by rich and luxuriant meadows, through which the Tame and Ankor flow. Drayton has beautifully described the scenery.

In Thor's Cavern, according to tradition, the Druids performed their sanguinary rites, and sacrificed human victims, enclosed in wicker-work, on the altar of their idol Thor.

At Tixall, the seat of Sir T. H. Clifford, Bart., is the marriage of Prince Arthur in tapestry, mentioned by Walpole. The Heath was

the scene of a most cruel assassination, marking the vindictive character of the feudal times. It is related in Harwood's "Erdeswick's Staffordshire," p. 60, note.

At Totmanslow lived a shepherd who was 120 years old when examined by Dr. Morton. He accounted for his longevity to his never having taken tobacco or physic, nor drank between meals, alleviating his thirst by rolling pebbles in his mouth, etc.

At Trentham, in 1805, his present Majesty visited the Marquis of Stafford.

Tutbury Castle was visited by King James in more than one of his progresses through this county. In it was confined Mary Queen of Scots from October, 1568, to November, 1569; she was again removed here in March, 1585, and here received the proposals of the intriguing Duke of Norfolk as the only means of obtaining her liberty.

Uttoxeter is particularly noted for the longevity of its inhabitants. Sir Simon Degge mentions about a dozen instances in this town about his time. In 1702 died two women, one aged 103 and the other 126.

At Wall, in 1690, a gold Otho was dug up, and numerous pieces of antiquity, besides Roman coins. Near this place a Roman military barricade, composed of entire oak-trees, standing on end close to each other, was discovered.

At Walsall a very remarkable custom still prevails. On the eve of Epiphany a gift of one penny is regularly distributed to every person resident in the borough and neighbouring villages. The origin is uncertain. Some say a person of the name of Moseley, hearing a child cry for bread on that day, was so affected that he vowed the like should never occur again, and so left his manor of Bescot as means to prevent it. The manor was once the property of the Earl of Warwick, the King Maker, and the Duke of Northumberland, who lost his head in attempting to establish Lady Jane Grey on the throne. Here was the seat of Henry Stone, Esq., a zealous Parliamentarian. In the Free School was educated Bishop Hough, and the first Lord Somers.

In Wednesbury Church are monuments to the Dudley and Harcourt families.

At Whichnor a flitch of bacon was hung up every year in a manner similar to that custom at Little Dunmow in Essex.

At the White Ladies Charles II. was concealed after the battle of Worcester.

Whitmore was the curacy of the celebrated John Ball, called the "Presbyterians' Champion," from 1610 till his death, October 20, 1639.

In Wolverhampton Collegiate Church is a statue of brass to Admiral Richard Leveson, who served under Sir F. Drake against

the Spanish Armada; also to Colonel John Lane, of Bentley, who concealed Charles II. after the battle of Worcester. In the Free School was educated Sir William Congreve, the celebrated engineer, and many other living worthies.

At "Wotton under Weever—where God came never," was the seat of the Davenports, which is remarkable for having afforded an asylum to the celebrated J. J. Rousseau.

At Yarlet was found the brass head of a Roman venabulum, or hunting-spear. S. T.

North-West Staffordshire.

[1794, *Part II., pp.* 1077-1081.]

In the latter end of September I set out on a hasty tour through the north-west parts of Staffordshire. Passing through the ancient village of Tutbury, we gazed with a mixture of delight and sorrow on those venerable towers, which, when in their glory, were but a cruel prison to the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots; but, since shattered by the iron hand of Cromwell and the mouldering touch of Time, now afford some excellent pictures to illustrate the history of this most noble and extensive honour, of which I have an admirable survey in the time of Queen Elizabeth, etc. The ancient market-town of Uttoxeter was the extent of the first day's journey. This fine old spire-church afforded me a good subject for a drawing, and the inside some curious monuments of the Minors, an ancient family in this parish, and of the Kynnersleys of Loxley, very ancient, the present possessor of which fine old place has since kindly offered me the use of his archives and a view of the house and park, etc. At Uttoxeter I was favoured with some very curious MSS. of the parish, relating to the civil wars. Hence to Cheadle ten miles. On the right-hand of the road, about three miles distant, in a recluse and pleasant valley, stand the beautiful remains of Croxden Abbey, now the property of the Earl of Macclesfield. This noble fabric, erected by Bertram de Verdon, Lord of Alton Castle, about 1176, has had no engraving since Buck's time, being in a situation little frequented by travellers; but I hope in due time to perpetuate it, and the above fine old castle, cruelly battered in the civil wars. Its situation is very romantic, on a bold rock close to the river Churnet. About three miles farther north is Wootton Lodge, the beautiful seat of the Unwins, formerly the Wheellers, built by that admirable architect, Inigo Jones. Near this place, in July last, fell a most violent torrent of rain, and suddenly raised a small brook under Weever Hills to the amazing height of 15 feet, which excavated the earth in several places in a wonderful manner, carrying everything before it, and, amongst the rest, a considerable bridge newly erected. Proceeding to Cheadle, passed through Checkley, a large village, with a fine gothic church of large dimensions and excellent workmanship, par-

ticularly the windows, which, together with the three remarkable Danish monuments in the churchyard, afforded me an admirable drawing. Amongst other accounts of this extensive parish, I have one written by the late learned rector, Dr. Langley, author of a translation of part of Homer. Next passed through the hamlets of Over and Nether Zean; at the latter of which, in the old manor house of Francis Ashby, Esq., Messrs. Phillips and Co. carry on an extensive manufactory of tape, brought hither from Holland about forty years ago. They have also erected some new works at Cheadle, and employ about five hundred hands. By the easy pressure of a single beam, a variety of small shuttles are put in motion, and almost any number of pieces wove in one frame. The neatness and simplicity of this machinery seems to rival that of the cotton-mills, and is infinitely less prejudicial to the health. The road to Cheadle here turns off to the right, that to Newcastle and the pottery proceeds forward through the river Tean; beyond which, about two miles, is the ancient village of Draycot in the Moors; from which church I copied a fine collection of monuments, etc., of the Draycot family, formerly lords of that manor, etc.

Of the pleasant market-town of Cheadle I shall only observe that the great family of Basset (whose illustrious actions and name will be very conspicuous in several parts of the county) were formerly lords thereof, and had a park upon the adjacent hills three miles in circumference. This manor and estate were lately sold by Sir Joseph Banks to John Holliday, Esq., who has erected himself an excellent house at Dilhorn, two miles farther west, in a rich and pleasant valley, and made other great improvements. To this ingenious gentleman I am indebted for much assistance; and, during my short stay here, the ancient parish church, remarkable for an octagonal tower, afforded me a curious drawing.

The vicinity of Cheadle offered me several other advantageous visits; and I had only to lament that the lateness of the season, and pressure of time, occasioned me to postpone inspecting the much-admired seats of Thomas Gilbert, Esq., at Cotton (where he has just finished a new chapel), and of John Sneyd, Esq., at Belmont, etc.

From Cheadle we proceeded by Sellar Head (and had a grand view of the moorlands near Leek, etc.) to Bucknall, Handley Green, and Etruria. Here the inimitable works of Mr. Wedgwood (to whom I have before expressed my obligation, p. 711) produced me a singular drawing; and his magnificent house and grounds arrested my attention and speculation. The hills and valleys are here by Nature beautifully formed, but owe much to the improvements of art. We see here a colony newly raised in a desert, where clay-built man subsists on clay. The forms into which this material are turned are innumerable both for use and ornament; nay, even the vases of ancient Etruria are outdone in this pottery. And we

now behold this exquisite composition not only ornamenting the ceilings and chimney-pieces of Mr. Wedgwood's own house, but many others in the county, etc. At the head of this fine vale the Grand Trunk Canal, by the ingenuity and perseverance of the immortal Brindley, is carried a mile and three quarters under a vast rocky hill—Hare Castle. Lower down this valley stands the venerable tower church of Stoke-upon-Trent, the mother church to most of this populous vicinity, viz., Handley, Burslem, Newcastle, etc. This last is a large and well-built borough and market town, remarkable for the traces of a castle situated in the middle of a great pool (though the water is now almost gone) on the west side of the town. This castle seems to have been erected temp. Henry III. after the decay of the more ancient one at Chesterton, about two miles farther north, and consequently gave name to this town. But, as I do not mean to enter into its history at present, I shall only add that the tower of the church appears very old, both from its mouldering stone and large circular arch at the west end; but the church was rebuilt in 1720. On the opposite hill stands the handsome old seat of the Sneyds, of Keel, as exhibited in Plot's plates, and will in due time make a considerable feature in the county history.

To proceed to the more important designs of this letter, I next visited Trentham; and must here beg leave to express my great obligations to the most noble the Marquis of Staffordshire for very liberal access to his valuable archives, where, besides an abundant variety of old records, illustrative of the great property of the Levesons of this place, Wolverhampton, etc., I was favoured with some MSS. of that learned philosopher and antiquary, the Rev. G. Plaxton, whose other writings may be seen in the "Philosophical Transactions." In the church I compared and copied many inscriptions and arms, and was highly indulged with inspecting this magnificent domain, so peculiarly rich in wood and water. The park, from the summit of which the scenery is very extensive, rich, and beautiful, contains above 400 acres; and the great lake, through which runs the river Trent, is upwards of eighty. In the middle of the wood, that so gracefully fringes the west banks of this water, winds a deep secluded valley, whose sweetly wild romantic forms and beauteous natural ornaments have justly obtained it the name of Tempe. Over the river, in the opposite pleasure-grounds, is newly erected an iron bridge of a single elliptic arch, 90 feet in span. The most curious plate of this house from Plot I am possessed of, and it has undergone two complete alterations since. The present appearance is engraved in Watts's "Views," but not faithfully; and I am honoured with a most flattering contribution of this noble place. In this charming park the Staffordshire cavalry were daily exercising under the eye of their colonel, the Right Hon. Earl Gower Sutherland, in a style that reflects much credit both on themselves

and the cause they have so zealously espoused. And I have since perused an excellent pamphlet on the subject by the ingenious pen of F. P. Eliot, Esq., major in the above corps.

About three miles north-west hence is Butterton, the seat of Thomas Swinnerton, Esq., who favoured me with his Chartulary, etc.; and I was glad to have this opportunity of preserving a likeness of the old family mansion, which is soon to be demolished, and rebuilt. Hence I was agreeably led three miles farther to inspect the ancient archives of the Mainwarings of Whitmore, of which I found Dr. Wilkes had amply availed himself. From Trentham five miles to Stone. On the left is Barlaston, the seat of Thomas Mills, Esq., which, together with the church, etc., form a pleasing landscape, and are pretty fully recorded in my Collections. Opposite to this, where the river emerges from Trentham Pool, and supplies a mill, is newly finished a handsome stone bridge at the expense of the county, and which has unfortunately twice fallen in during its erection. Passing next through Tittensor, an ancient village, remarkable for some fine springs, we see at the extremity of the heath the large vestiges of the camp or seat of Wolfer, King of Mercia, anciently called Wolfercester, now Berry Bank, the property of Thomas Swinnerton, Esq. And, about a mile west, is the ancient house of the Swinnertons, of Swinnerton, now the inheritance and residence of Basil Fitzherbert, Esq., whose family and estates will be largely inserted in my History.

Next pass through Darlaston, leaving Meaford, on the opposite banks of the river, on our left, the old seat of Wm. Jervis, Esq., brother to the present famous admiral. In the opposite meadows stands the neat modern mansion of another branch of this family, John Jervis, Esq., who, not long since, pulled down the old white house, which, together with the estate, was purchased from the Colliers, but originally belonged to Burton Abbey.

Hence, across Stonefield, between the canal and Trent, to Stone, a pleasant market town, which owes its improvements to that extensive navigation. The church, which was rebuilt in 1758, is an elegant stone fabric, of the modern Gothic. In the churchyard are several curious monuments of the Cromptons, etc., that stood in the old church, and there are some small remains of the abbey adjoining to the parsonage, of which I have a most curious account in my thirteenth volume of "Stafford MSS." A newly-erected workhouse, at the south-west angle of this town, both for its size and convenience, merits public notice.

Hence to Sandon, four miles eastward on the great road. Mr. Pennant, in his "Journey from Chester," has described this as well as other principal features in this delightful part of the county. My present visit was only to compare copies of the divers monuments, arms, etc., in the fine old church, of the celebrated Erdes-

wick and his ancestors, which are still remaining in the highest preservation. Since Mr. Pennant wrote, great improvements have been made around the noble house by the present owner, Lord Harrowby, whose taste in ornamental grounds is most excellent.

Crossing the Trent to Stafford, we leave Hopton Heath on our left, memorable for a battle between the Earl of Northampton and the Oliverian party, in which the former lost his life. A very circumstantial account of this engagement, with many other unpublished facts relative to those troublesome times, I was favoured with by Dr. Wright, of Stafford, in a volume of letters, written by the different parties during the civil wars.

The new gaol at Stafford is a magnificent feature, as well as of great public utility and credit to the county. But my attention, during a short stay here, was chiefly directed to the stately old church of St. Mary, formerly collegiate, in collating my collections of its monuments, and in drawing a perspective of that venerable fabric, which highly deserves perpetuating by the best skill of an engraver; and I have reason to hope for a contribution of it from the corporation. The tower, which stands in the centre, is now octagonal, but was originally square, with a spire, the foundation of which is still visible. In the year 1593, this steeple, with many others in the county, was blown down by a violent tempest, and rebuilt the following year in its present form except the top part, which was again renewed since 1742, when, on June 29, the weathercock and that part of the steeple were demolished by lightning. In the principal street, near the Swan, remains one of the largest and most remarkable half-timbered houses perhaps in the kingdom.

The town hall, as engraved in Plot, is so decayed that an Act of Parliament was lately obtained to rebuild it in a more commodious and handsome manner. In the meantime, the assizes, etc., are obliged to be held in the above church. Besides the valuable documents illustrative of this ancient county town, in my thirteen volumes of old deeds, etc., collected by the great owners of this castle, the MSS. of Dr. Wilkes are very considerable; and I am much indebted to the Rev. —— Shaw, master of the grammar school here, for his excellent assistance.

Hence my final visit was to Ingestry, to inspect the long-lost MSS. collected by the antiquary, Walter Chetwynd, for which I am greatly obliged to the uncles and guardians of the present Lord Talbot. Dr. Plot, in his "Chapter of Antiquities," apologizes for not meddling with the pedigrees or descents either of families or lands in this county, knowing a much abler pen then employed about it, viz., the above learned gentleman. Into his hands fell the original MSS. of Erdeswick, and he had the additional Collections of Mr. Ferrers, of Baddesley, besides very large ones of his own;

but all these, upon the repairing of Ingestry Hall, though carefully put up in a box by the Rev. J. Milnes, rector there, were unhappily lost, but since found at Rudge, as Dr. Wilkes informs me. And I have the satisfaction to add, from the most liberal use of them, that these Chetwynd MSS. in two large volumes, as noticed in the "British Topography," vol. ii., p. 229, were at length discovered again in the library at Ingestry. One of these volumes beautifully written on vellum, contains copies of all the deeds, seals, and other evidences of the Chetwynd family, with drawings of divers monuments, arms, etc. The other, a comprehensive and authentic history of most of the parishes in Pirehill hundred, etc., down to the time of the ingenious writer, about 1680. . . .

Permit me to add my grateful acknowledgments for many other favours received since the above excursion, particularly to the Right Hon. Lord Bagot, for the liberal inspection of his ancient and beautiful pedigree, curious records, valuable portraits, etc., illustrative of his noble old seat at Blithfield. . . . Similar obligations I am under to the Right Hon. Lord Curzon for a beautiful plate of his charming seat at Hagley. The most noble the Marquis and Marchioness of Donegal have likewise honoured me with an elegant view of their magnificent house at Fisherwick. To William Tennant, Esq., I am also indebted for a very rich engraving of his delightful seat at Little Aston; likewise to Richard Dyott, Esq., for his picturesque place, Freeford; and to W. P. Inge, Esq., for his respectable old mansion at Thorpe with modern additions and improvements. S. SHAW, Jun.

Topography of Staffordshire.

[1819, *Part I., p.* 396.]

I take the liberty of requesting a page in your valuable publication for a few remarks relative to the topographical history of the county of Stafford.

Clent Heath.—This tract is represented by Plot and Nash as central to the hills of Wichburg and Clent, whence the Britons and Romans poured their adverse forces into the subjacent plain; and also as the site of several tumuli and other vestiges of antiquity.

From personal observation, and, indeed, from subsequent remarks of the authors themselves, it appears evident that Harborough Common, in the parish of Hagley, and county of Worcester, is the spot intended to be described.

After repeated inquiries, no information can be obtained of any heath bearing the name of Clent; the deep valley separating the hills of Clent and Walton appears to have had no such appellation, either in ancient or modern times.

This glen (hence the name of the range of hills and the adjacent village) had the name of Cowbatch, or Cowdale, at the time it was

the scene of an inhuman murder—that of Kenelm, Prince of Mercia. Since that time Clatterbatch has been the term by which it has been designated.

Ashwood Camp.—In every map of the county of Stafford wherein Ashwood Camp is inserted (as far as the writer's observation extends) this vestige of antiquity is placed at Camp Hill, in the parish of Enville, on the west side of the river Smastall.

As the parish of King's Swinford is on the east of that stream, Ashwood cannot extend so far in that direction as Camp Hill; indeed, the remains of the entrenchment are visible, though imperfectly so, within the tract called Ashwood, once a woodland district, but now forming part of the cultivated lands of King's Swinford.

About four miles from Stourbridge a road branches from the turnpike road to Wolverhampton, and takes a western direction. At the distance of about two miles from its commencement is Green's Forge, situated on the Trent and Severn Canal, and east of Smestall.

Contiguous to the village so named is the camp. A circular vallum is apparent, unequally intersected by the road above mentioned.

The western side of the entrenchment, on the declivity extending to the canal and to Green's Forge, is most conspicuous. This spot having the name of the churchyard, and Camp Hill, the residence of Mr. Feraday, being considered as the site of the entrenchment, a mistake has arisen, which has been copied into several maps in succession. W. Scott.

Church Notes from Parishes in Staffordshire.

[1794, *Part II.*, *pp.* 712-715.]

Handsworth is a village in Staffordshire, four miles from Birmingham. The church stands on the slope of a hill fronting the east, and consists of a nave with three pointed arches, and a little clerestory opposite to the pulpit, and two aisles and a chancel.

At the east end of the north aisle on an altar-tomb is a man in plated armour, like scales on the arms, and like flounces on the body; head on helmet. Against the foot of the tomb is fixed a skeleton on its side in a shroud. Arms above, Barry of seven o. and g.; in a dexter canton, g. a gauntlet o. holding a cross whose transverse only is fleuri. Crest, a stag's head. On a black tablet above, ten lines in capitals almost illegible, part of which are:

"SIC MORS SEU . . . VE SENIS QUI."

Against a south pillar, an oval tablet:

"In memory of Sergius Swellengrebel, esq., lately resident in the service of States of Holland at their settlement of Boethecomba and Bowthamo, in the East Indies, who died in this parish on the 15th Aug., 1770, aged 39."

Gules, a fleur-de-lis, or.

On the south side of the nave a tablet has: A. a cross . . . . between four others g.

Over a recess and door of the south chancel, behind the pulpit, a double wooden carved cornice, and

"IOHN PIDDON, THOMAS OSBORN, C. WARDENS 1701."

Against the south wall of the chancel, a white table for Richard Walter, gent., died August 3, 1788, aged 50.

A fess ingrailed o. between three spread eagles a.; impaling, a. two bars g. a lion passant guardant.

"In cœlo spes mea" over the figure of Hope.

In the south wall, two stone seats and a piscina.

A locker in the east wall on the north side.

On the same wall, a mural monument for

". . . . . archdeacon of Stafford, canon of the cathedral of Lichfield, and parson of Handsworth, deceased Sept., 1636, aged 71."

Three crescents a chief erm.; or, s. a chevron between three crescents a. a chief erm. "Mors mihi lucrum."

I could not distinguish the first line; but this is for John Fulnetby, precentor of Lichfield 1608, Archdeacon of Stafford 1614, prebendary of Gaia Major and B.D. 1605, and Rector of Handsworth and Aldrich, co. Stafford. In his will, dated December 16, 1629, proved November 11, 1636, he names no place of burial, but gives a legacy of £30 to Aldrich and Barre poor, making his wife executrix; and so was probably buried at Aldrich. Willis, "Cath.," i. 406, 419, 446. See "Topogr.," iv. 254, an erroneous copy.

In the north aisle window:

G., six fleurs-de-lis a.

O., two lions passant guardant dexter az.*

The first is supposed an ancient coat of the Wyrleys, and the other a later. According to Mr. Walker, in "Topogr.," iv. 255, n., they frequently changed their coat.

At the upper end of this aisle, on an altar-tomb of freestone, a man in the same kind of armour as the former in hard blue stone; gauntlets, hair cropped, bare-headed, lion at feet looking up, sword and dagger, crest on a helmet; a woman by him in a close cap, ruff, long sleeves, close gown, dog under her feet. On the front of the tomb these coats:

A., a chevron ingrailed s. between three bugle-horns, g.—Wyrley; quartering s. two lions courant a. crowned o. another coat of Wyrley; impaling, a., a bend s. between two roses g.

The first single. Crest: Two wings on a torse. Quarterly, 1, 4.

* The coat of the Someries, barons of Dudley, the ancient coat of Wyrley here alluded to being Sa. 2 lions passant arg. crowned or. See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1794, part ii., p. 803.

The bugle-horns; 2. The lions; 3. The bend and roses; impaling, s. a fess between three ducks a. At the head, Quarterly, 1. The horns; 2. The lions; 3. The bend and roses; 4. The fess between three ducks; impaling, v. fretty a.

On the floor are two freestone slabs, on which are cut in black lines a man in plated armour, ruff, helmet under his head, a lion looking up at his feet, and this inscription round the ledge:

"Here lyeth buried the body of John Wyrley, esquier, and Goodith, his wife, mother of Humphrey Peyton, esquier. The said John deceased in Februarie, anno D'ni 1594, and the said Goodith in November, 1622. They had between them eleven sonnes and seaven daughters."

She lies on a tasseled cushion in the veil head-dress, flowing gown, and laced petticoat. The other is similar, and has this inscription:

"Here lieth buried the bodies of Thomas Wyrlye, esq., and Dorothye, his wife, daughter of Hugh Hamon (Harmon), esq. The said Thomas died Ano D'ni 1583, the said Dorothye in January, 1597; and they had tenn sonns and eight daughters between them."

The figures are similar, but laid the reverse way.

In the east wall above are, Quarterly, 1. Q., a chevron G. between three lions rampant a.; 2. The horns; 3. The lions; 4. Bend between roses. Crest: The wings, as before. Below, the chevron and lions rampant; impaling, a. on a cross S., a stag's head between four heathcocks—Harmon. $\overset{\text{W.}}{\text{T. D.}}$ the chevron and lions rampant; impaling, Barry of four—Peyto. $\overset{\text{W}}{\text{Io§oG}}$ a . . . . per pale indented quarterly a. and g.

Achievement, with the bugle-horns—Birch. Motto: "A plesance."

The font is a gray stone basin, hexagon, on a pedestal of niche-work.

Benefactions.

Sir William Whorwood, Knt., gave £15 per annum for ever to charitable uses; of which 5s. to the poor.

Henry Coke, gent., £2 per annum.

Thomas Hedgerley, gent., ditto.

Elizabeth Piddock, widow, £1.

William Piddock, of Smethwick, gent., 21 James I., 6s. 8d. per annum for 600 years.

William Lane, gent., 10s. for ever.

George Birch, gent., to the poor on Handsworth side 13s. 4d. per annum, and 6s. 4d. to the minister for a sermon on December 25 for ever.

William Hodgitts, yeoman, 6s. 8d.

Henry Willis, yeoman, 4s.

Roger Osbourne, yeoman, £1.

Henry Osbourne, of the Spont, 6s. for ever to the poor of Perry Bar.

Henry Gibbons, and his brother Gibbons, to the poor of ditto for ever, one close, now valued at £25 per annum.

Thomas Bromwich, to the poor of Handsworth, Perry Bar, and Great Bar, a close, valued at £1 8s. per annum.

The manor was held, 20 William the Conqueror, by William FitzAusculph; temp. Henry II., by Paganus de Parles, till the reign of Henry VI., when the heiress married Comberford. Joan de Someri, wife of Thomas, Lord Botetourt, had demesnes here 8 Edward III.; John Hardlo, Lord Burnell, one-third of the manor 8 Henry V., which devolved, temp. Edward IV., on James Boteler, Earl of Wilts, who was beheaded, and his estate forfeited.

In this parish, west from the church, is Hamstead Hall, the seat of George Birch, Esq.,* heir to the Wyrleys, here buried. Also Perry Hall, an old brick mansion, moated round, and having a park of about forty acres. In the reign of John it was the seat of a family named Pery; in Erdeswick's time, of the Stanefords; and, from the reign of Charles II., of the Goughs. It was purchased, 1669, of Best, by Sir Henry Gough, Knt., who married Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Littleton, of Pillaton, in the same county, and is now the property of his great-grandson, John Gough, Esq. (Camden's "Brit.," ii. 383).

From Perry to Walsall, six miles by turnpike into the highroad; Wilenhale, from the bridge, two miles to Wolverhampton. At the first turnpike the road turns to the right; to Coventry twenty-nine, Tamworth fifteen, Lichfield nine miles. A turning to the left to Stourbridge and Shrewsbury, sixty miles from Wolverhampton. Walsall is a very large, sooty, ill-paved town, having a large church with a tower and spire, and, at the end of the town, a meeting-house newly built.

Wilenhale is a similar town; the church rebuilt of brick.

Wolverhampton—or, as it is commonly called in the country, Hampton—is a large, populous, paved town, having a market on Wednesday and a great manufactory of locks and buckles. The old church is handsomely built of stone, embattled, with a tower and spire in the centre; a nave with two aisles and chancel; south and north, stone porches; a stone pulpit of niche-work against a south pillar, a sweep of steps round it, and, at foot of them, a large lion sitting. The nave rests on five pointed arches on octagon pillars, and has a double clerestory. The south door of the steps to the rood-loft remains.

At the east end of the south aisle, an altar tomb with a man and woman of the time of Elizabeth, much damaged. A man and woman at the north side holding three hands, or az. three laurel leaves erect o.—Leveson; impaling, Barry of 8. The same in a

* This gentleman has pulled down the ancient house of the Wyrleys and erected a modern mansion. See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1794, part ii., p. 803.

garter. The three hands imp. chequé quartering. . . . At the head, three mullets; in the centre, a trefoil. Three hands, each coat single, and encircled with an inscription. The following is the inscription in black letter in bas-relief:

"Here lyeth the bodyes of JOHN LEVESON, esq., and JOYCE, his wyfe, which deceased the 8th of Aprill, in the year of our Lord God 1575, being merchant of the staple, and sherife, and justice of the peace of this county.'

The font at the east end of the north aisle is octagon, adorned with roses, sprigs, tulip, bell, cross, flowers. On the shaft, Saints Anthony, Paul, Peter; one with a palm-branch and shield, one with a club, one with his hands elevated.

An altar-tomb for

"THOMAS LANE, of Bentley, in this county of Stafford, esquier, and Katheryn, his wife."

Three griffins' heads s.

A chevron between three mullets.

The last coat impaled the first in a circle.

"IN DVIS þ̃ be to God. . . ."

Over the feet: Quarterly,

1. Per fess o. and az. g. a chevron between three mullets g.
2. V. a lion rampant g.
3. Barry of eight.
4. A fess fretty between heads.
5. A scythe.
6. The griffins' heads.

Over it a Latin inscription for John, eldest son of Thomas Lane, of B——, bred to the bar; died of a fever in Ireland, 1782, aged sixty. This monument was erected by his wife Sarah, daughter and co-heir of Fowler, of Pensford, died 1784. Crest, a bearded figure.

Another monument for John Lane, who preserved King Charles II. at the battle of Worcester. His son Thomas had an augmentation of the royal arms in a dexter canton. He was born 1609; died 1667; and would have been buried by the king in Westminster Abbey if he had not on his death-bed refused the honour.

In 1751 the number of houses in Wolverhampton were estimated at 1,440; people, 7,454.*

In the churchyard, almost fronting the south porch, or principal entrance, is a round pillar, about 20 feet high, covered with rude carvings, divided into several compartments. On the north-west face, at bottom, in the spandrils of a kind of arch, are cut a bird and beast looking back at each other. Above, divided by a narrow band, are other similar figures, or dragons with fore-feet and long tails, in lozenges. Above them, a band of Saxon leaves, and, in lozenges, birds and roses. Over these, a narrow band, and then, in

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1752, p. 347.

lozenges, beasts or griffins. Another band, and a compartment of rude carving, and then a regular plain capital. Whether it supported a cross is uncertain. The bottom of the pillar has stone masonry worked round it to keep it upright. Whether this is a Danish or Saxon monument is not exactly determined. There is one somewhat like it in Leek Churchyard,* and others ruder in that of Checkley, in the same county.

Two miles from Wolverhampton is Tetenhale, a pleasant village on a hill, on the top of which are several good houses, and on the west slope of which stands the church, consisting of a nave with a clerestory and two aisles, a chancel with its south aisle, which has been rebuilt, a high stone porch on the south side of the nave, into which you descend by one step, and a square embattled west tower. The east window of the chancel is light and beautiful, of five bays of different heights; the round single pillars within with ring capitals projecting, and having an interval between. In the south wall of the chancel, an high-pointed arch with round pillars stopped up, are two stalls level, a third east of them raised higher, and a piscina in the angle above. In the arch west of this are two more stalls level, but not contiguous. On the north side of the chancel two pointed arches, stopped up, with flowered capitals; the rail of the communion-table runs on both sides and in front, at the distance of 16 feet from it to the west to the steps. On the north wall a mural monument of a woman kneeling in a gown. Arms: Erm. a martlet, in chief three roundels for Joan, wife of Richard Cresswell, of Burnhurst, 1590.

The south aisle of the chancel is the burial-place of the Fowlers of Penford, and the lower part of it that of the Wightwicks of Wightwick, Dunstal, Castleacre, etc., in this parish, in which is a mural monument for one of them, repaired 1772; another for William Smith, architect, 1724. In the east part of the north aisle is an altar-tomb with the figures of John Wrothesley, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, with this inscription:

"Here lye the bodyes of John Wrotsley, esq., and Elizabeth, his wyfe, which iohn decesed the xviiith day of Nove'ber, ao d'ni 1578."

At the side a man and woman, supporting three piles g. in a dexter canton. Erm. impalement gone. Eight more figures, and an infant in swaddling-clothes.

At the head:

"which Elizabeth caused this tombe to be made 1580."

A cinquefoil o. impaling Barry of eight. Wrothesley impaling it, and single. A dog rampant on her gown.

In the west window of the north aisle, Az. or g., two lions passant guardant o. In the south clerestory window an inscription too high to be read. In the south window a griffin in a round. R. G.

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1780, p. 165; *post*, p. 88.

A Walk to Beresford.

[1829, *Part II., pp.* 28-31.]

Quitting Newcastle-under-Lyme on a fine morning in August, we crossed the smoky region of the Potteries, and taking the road to Leek, soon reached the village of Norton-in-the-Moors, formerly celebrated as the Gretna Green of the surrounding country, where impatient couples were linked together for life, without undergoing the tedious forms required in more punctilious places. Norton, like the Fleet, has lost its privileges; and they who now repair thither on a matrimonial excursion must submit, as elsewhere, to the formality of banns or the production of a license.

From Norton the road proceeds, through a district which becomes more barren at every step, to a village called in the maps Endon, but pronounced by the country people Yan, in which, as in many other instances, they rather preserve the real name of the place, than are guilty of corrupting it, the old orthography being, I believe, Yendon. The church, a modern structure, has nothing about it worthy of remark; but in the burial-ground a gravestone, which covers "the remains of Wm. Murhall, Esq., late of Bagnall," exhibits this quaint inscription:

> "Part of what I possessed is left to others,
> And what I gave away remains with me."

Of this person, a popular tradition in the neighbourhood is that during the rebellion of 1745 a straggler from the Scottish army, on its retreat from Derby, took refuge in a shed near to his house, and being there discovered, was by him slain, flayed, and his skin conveyed to a tanyard to be tanned; but, not being able to get this performed, he took it home with him, and never after prospered. There is also a neat tomb in a field adjoining the churchyard, said to be that of a Freethinker, viz., "John Chenel, china manufacturer, of Shelton, ob. 1721, æt. 65," whose motto, the inscription adds, was "Integrity and Honour."

About five miles beyond Endon, in a north-easterly direction, we arrived at Leek, the principal town of the moorlands, containing about five thousand inhabitants, the majority of whom are engaged in the silk and ribbon manufacture, which is here carried on to a great extent. The church is a handsome gothic structure, and in the churchyard stands a curious stone pillar, ornamented with fretwork and imagery, which Plot conjectures to be a Danish monument.* Leek is noted for the longevity of its inhabitants, and apparently not without reason, for I remarked that the grave-stones record eighty or ninety years as an age of quite common attainment there.†

* For a figure and description of this pillar see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1780, p. 165; *post*, p. 88.

† "The longevity of men in this county perhaps may be ascribed to their drinking of ale, Turnebus affirming that such is more wholsom and contributory

After quitting Leek, the country becomes as wild as the most romantic fancy can desire; nothing meets the eye but huge masses of sterile crags, intersected by the channels of wintry floods, which sometimes rush from these eminences to the lowlands with terrific rapidity. Not a bush or tree is to be seen, and the only signs of vegetation which present themselves are occasional patches of herbage in the valleys, enclosed by rude fences of limestone fragments, put together without cement. The thinly-scattered inhabitants subsist chiefly upon oatcake, and a few oats are therefore occasionally sown, but they seldom or never completely ripen. Some idea of the steepness of the hills may be formed from Dr. Plot's description of Narrowdale, a place we visited on our way to Beresford: "In the northerly part of the Moore-lands," he says, "the hills and boggs are such that a horse can scarce pass; and indeed many of the mountains, which they call roches, clouds, torrs, edges, cops, heads, etc., are hardly passable, some of them being of so vast a height, that in rainy weather I have frequently seen the tops of them above the clouds. Those of Narrowdale in particular, are so very lofty, that the inhabitants there, for that quarter of the year wherein the sun is nearest the tropic of Capricorn, never see it at all; and at length, when it does begin to appear, they never see it till about one by the clock, which they call thereabout the Narrowdale noon, using it proverbially when they would express a thing done late at noone." Altogether, a more desolate and barren tract is scarcely possible to imagine than that which we crossed, for about eight miles after quiting Leek, till we arrived at Alstonfield, on the verge of the Dove, where it assumes a somewhat better aspect. Here we halted at the sign of the George, and were entertained by our chatty hostess with anecdotes of the neighbourhood, and some excellent eggs and bacon, the only fare her larder afforded; after which we took a hasty survey of the village and the church, a substantial stone building, fully justifying Viator's exclamation ("Complete Angler," part ii.), "As I'm an honest man, a very pretty church!" The two views of the exterior in Major's "Walton," though deficient in a few minutiæ, are, upon the whole, sufficiently correct. The interior, which is neatly fitted up with low oak pews, consists of a nave, side-aisles, and chancel. There is a small organ, and a painting of Time and a skeleton on each side of the altar. One of the pews, coloured blue, is said to have been that of the Cotton family; and Pitt, in his "History of Staffordshire," 1847, p. 243, assures us that the curious pulpit and reading-desk, on which is carved the date 1637, "were the gift of the celebrated Charles Cotton, the poet." If so, it was a most remarkable instance of

to long life than wine, and that 'tis this makes many live to 100 years." (MS. note by Dr. Plot, in the copy of his "History of Staffordshire," British Museum.)

precocious piety, the "celebrated poet" having been at that period only seven years old; but the fact is that Walton's friend, in this as in fifty other instances, has been confounded with his father. Some extracts from the register of this church relating to the Cottons may be seen in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1825, part i., p. 581.

From Alstonfield, an easy quarter of an hour's walk brought us within view of Beresford Hall, lying embosomed in lofty trees, a green speck in the desert, while in front the delicate river Dove holds on its silvery course, but hidden from view by the lofty precipices which rise on either side of it. The trees, I suppose, are those mentioned by Viator, where he says of the hall: "It stands prettily, and here's wood about it too, but so young, it appears to be of your own planting"; to which Piscator (Cotton) replies in the affirmative. The house, built, I think, by the Beresfords in the sixteenth century, is large and of respectable appearance. Major's view gives too mean an idea of it. That in Bagster's second edition, "Linnell del., Greig sc.," is much more faithful. The walls are constructed of coarse stone, the produce of the neighbourhood; the roof is tiled, and the chimneys are stone. Over the entrance is carved in lozenge the Beresford crest, a bear rampant, which is also painted in some of the windows. About twenty yards from the front we passed through a gate in a substantial stone wall of recent erection, forming the boundary of a vegetable garden, and along a path, fenced on each side by a privet hedge, to the principal door, which opens into a large, old-fashioned hall, having at one end a fireplace of ample dimensions, surmounted by antlers, and curiously carved work in oak. At the opposite extremity three steps lead into a small room, called the green parlour, part of which, partitioned off, still bears the name of "Squire Cotton's Study"; but the state of the apartment does not evince much veneration for his memory, the walls being decayed, and the window partly broken out. Opposite the entrance door a staircase conducts to a lofty drawing-room and a delightfully pleasant bedroom, the latter of which we, *nem. con.*, decided must be "my father Walton's apartment," in which Viator sleeps. There are various other chambers on this floor, but they are going fast to ruin, and several of them are in darkness, having the windows "made up." Above them are garrets, from whence another flight of stairs, or a ladder rather, gives access to the roof, part of which is flat, and surrounded by balustrades; but they are much decayed, and in a tottering condition. The view here is remarkably pleasant. In front, the house is sheltered from the moorland blasts by a steep hill, and to the left by another, on which are the ruins of a stone building called the Temple; and here was the bowling-green to which, in the second part of "The Complete Angler," Cotton calls the attention of his friend. Far below these hills runs the Dove, to which, descending by a steep and somewhat

hazardous winding path, we came, about halfway down, to a dark, damp hole in the rock dignified by the title of "Squire Cotton's Grotto," a spot which, in his fine stanzas on "Retirement," he has rendered celebrated by those well-known lines commencing:

> "O my beloved Cave, from Dog-star's heat
> And all anxieties a safe retreat."

It might be a safe retreat, but could scarcely be a pleasant one; nor, if we may credit tradition, did it suffice to exclude those "anxieties" with which poor Cotton appears to have been incessantly harassed. . . .

Arrived at the termination of the descent, we found ourselves on the banks of the far-famed Dove, which, though at its source among the moors, six or seven miles higher, a dark-coloured stream, is rendered beautifully bright and limpid ere it arrives at this place, by numerous tributary springs received on the way. Adjoining this spot is the chief scene of action in Part II. of "The Complete Angler," viz., Pike Pool, Major's two views of which yield a clear idea of the scene, and the remarkable rock or pike, from which it takes its name is delineated in Wale's design with tolerable exactness, save that it is now somewhat less pointed than there represented, owing, I suppose, to the action of the elements since the drawing was made. The scenery hereabouts is of the most captivating description. The river, which in some places is hemmed within such narrow limits that its waters rage and foam with great impetuosity to force themselves a passage, meeting at this spot with a wider channel, subsides into calmness, and continues its course with unruffled placidity, save where the stream is occasionally disturbed by fragments of stone which have toppled down from the rocks above. The precipitous banks, fringed with trees and copsewood, rise to a tremendous height, excluding the sunbeams, and imparting to the scene, even at midday, an air of enchanting repose and solemnity. . . .

Just above the Pike, a small wooden footbridge leads over the stream towards Hartshorn, in Derbyshire. It bears the date of 1818, but is merely the successor of one more ancient, as is evident from Piscator's saying: "Cross the bridge, and go down the other side." Somewhat higher up, on the Staffordshire bank, the windings of the river form a small peninsula on which stands the far-famed Fishing House; but, alas! how changed since the time when, in the words of Venator, it was "finely wainscoted, with a marble table in the middle, and all exceeding neat." The stone slabs which composed the floor are partly broken up, the windows are entirely destroyed, the doors decaying and without fastenings, the roof is dilapidated, and the vane which surmounts it is rusty and nodding to its fall. The fireplace alone remains in good preservation. Hawkins tells us that the exterior was formerly adorned with

paintings, in fresco, of Cotton, Walton, and the Boy, but these are entirely gone, and nought now decorates the walls save the names of various obscure individuals who have thought fit thus to record their having visited the spot. The steps at the entrance are covered with weeds, and the well-known keystone (which, however, appears to be in a sound state) is so overspread with moss that the first word of the inscription is quite defaced. The preface to Walton's "Life of Donne," edit. 1825, mentions the establishment of a society called "The Walton and Cotton Club," the members of which, anxious to do honour to old Izaak, have resolved upon erecting a monument to his memory. Surely it would not be foreign to their purposes if they endeavoured to rescue from impending ruin an edifice constructed for his gratification by a friend whom he so much valued, and in a spot which he so much loved! "The Fishing-house," says the kind-hearted old man, "has been described, but the pleasantness of the river, the mountains, and meadows about it cannot, unless Sir Philip Sydney or Mr. Cotton's father were again alive to do it." Major's two views of the Fishing-house faithfully represented its present appearance, with the exception that several of the surrounding trees have been cut down since they were taken. That in Bagster's edition, Linnell del., Greig sculp., is, I think, if possible, still more accurate. Some prints of the Fishing-house include also a distant prospect of the hall, but this is quite at variance with correctness, as the intervening hill, before described, completely excludes it from view. The building actually seen from the Fishing-house is merely a barn at the back of the hall.

[1829, *Part II.*, *pp.* 110, 111.]

The Fishing-house of Izaak Walton is 15 feet square, and about 30 feet in height, to the centre of the pointed roof. Opposite the entrance, in the right-hand corner, is an angular excavation, wherein it is said Cotton deposited his wine. Our cicerone informed us that "soon after Squire Cotton's time" his aunt was housekeeper at the hall, then occupied by a Mr. Osborn, at which period the Fishing-house was ceiled and in good condition; and that Mr. O. being a devoted angler, had a mattress there, for the convenience of sleeping near the river, which was raised or let down by pulleys. The hall, he added, now belongs to a Mr. Jebb, of Chesterfield, in Derbyshire, whose maiden sister long resided there, expending much money to keep the house and grounds in a state differing greatly from their present forlorn condition. It is now inhabited by a labourer and his family, and two or three apartments are occupied by a clergyman named Ward, who does duty at Hartington and Wetton; but we were told that Mr. Jebb had intimated an intention of making it his own residence. This idea, however, I presume he abandoned; for about twelve months after the time at which we visited the place it

was announced for sale. The advertisement issued on the occasion I shall subjoin, for two reasons; firstly, because certain matter-of-fact readers may wish to know the precise dimensions of the estate by actual measurement; and, secondly, because the admirers of Walton and Cotton will be gratified to see that the fame of their favourites has penetrated even the dusky recesses of an auctioneer's office:

"Beresford Hall, Staffordshire, formerly the residence of Charles Cotton, Esq.

"To be sold by auction, by Mr. Nicholson, on Wednesday the 10th day of August next, at the house of Mr. Wood, the Green Man, in Ashborne, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all the manor, or reputed manor, of Beresford, in the county of Stafford, consisting of an ancient mansion or hall house, rookery, &c., &c., and near 90 acres of land, on the river Dove, which forms the eastern boundary of the property. The rocks and the whole of the romantic scenery are well clothed with both ancient and young timber, and the property is well known to the public, not only for its very great and picturesque beauty, but also from its having been the favourite residence and place of retirement of MR. COTTON, and of his friend IZAAK WALTON.

"It consists of the mansion house, garden, orchard, kitchen-garden, plantations of meadows, making (with the river) near 90 acres in the whole, about 70 acres of which are excellent dairy land.

"Any farther particulars may be had at Mr. M. Thomas's, No. 6, New Boswell-court, Lincoln's-inn, London; and at the office of Mr. Thomas in Chesterfield.

"*Chesterfield,* July 13, 1825."

I shall close this paper with a few scattered notices relating to Walton, which, trivial though they be, will not be quite uninteresting to his admirers.

"To swing the hero of an alehouse sign" is allowed to be an undeniable proof of celebrity; and this honour has not been withheld from old Izaak. Witness the annexed advertisement, transcribed from the *Staffordshire Advertiser* of October 6, 1827:

"DOVEDALE.

"To the admirers and visitors of the romantic and beautiful scenery of Dovedale and Ilam.

"T. Atkins begs to inform the visitors to this most picturesque of all English scenery that he has, at a considerable expense, fitted up the ISAAC WALTON HOTEL for their accommodation; and trusts that the refreshments and apartments, as well as the attention paid them, will be such as to merit their patronage.

"The situation of the ISAAC WALTON HOTEL is peculiarly advantageous, being the only hotel contiguous to the Dale, from the

entrance to which it is only a quarter of a mile, and the same distance from Ilam Hall, the gardens of which are allowed to be visited twice in each week, viz., Mondays and Thursdays.

"To the admirers of Congreve, Darwin, Rousseau, Walton, and Dr. Johnson* it will be unnecessary to add anything in the way of description or inducement; to them it will be classic ground.

"*Ilam, near Ashburn*, Oct. 1, 1827."

Most of Walton's readers must be aware that he bequeathed to the Corporation of Stafford the rent of a farm near that place, then amounting to £21 10s. per annum, to be by them appropriated to certain charitable purposes; but in the event of the proceeds being fraudulently applied, the bequest was to be transferred to the neighbouring rown of Eccleshall. The estate has not hitherto been forfeited, although, as appears from the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into public charities (wherein it is particularly described), complaints have occasionally been made that the money was not distributed with perfect impartiality. The subjoined accounts of the manner in which receipts have been expended in one or two recent instances are from the Stafford newspaper:

"This week has been dispensed to the poor of the Borough of Stafford the bounty of the celebrated and ingenious Izaak Walton, a native of the place, who bequeathed a portion of 'the rents and profits of a farme' for the purchase of coals 'for some poor people,' to be delivered in January or February. 'I say *then*,' run the words of the humane testator, 'because I take that time to be the hardest and most pinching times with poor people.' The farm in question is now of considerable value, bringing in, we believe, about £80 a year; and after deducting a moiety of the profits directed to be applied to the apprenticing of two boys, and in a gift to a maid-servant, or some honest poor man's daughter, a sufficient sum has this year remained for the purchase of a small allowance of coal to almost every poor family, which has this week been distributed."—*Staffordshire Advertiser*, January 27, 1827.

"On Monday last (Sunday being St. Thomas's Day), the Corporation of this borough, in pursuance of the will of 'good old Izaak Walton,' gave £5 each with the son of Charles Smith's widow, and the son of William Pilsbury, on their being bound apprentices; also £5 to Martha Smith, for long servitude in one place and general good conduct, and 40s. each to ten burgesses of this borough."—*Ibid.*, December 27, 1828.) JAMES BROUGHTON.

* Congreve is said (I know not upon what authority) to have composed his "Old Bachelor" in Mr. Port's garden at Ilam; and Rousseau, during his visit to England, in 1766, resided for some time at Wotton, in the neighbourhood. Mine host's reasons for adding the names of Darwin and Johnson to the list is not so obvious; possibly because the one was a native of the county, and the other passed the latter part of his life at Derby, no great distance from Dovedale!

Magistrates for Staffordshire in 1647.

[1826, *Part I., p.* 518.]

The following list of magistrates for the county of Stafford in 1647 is extracted from a small MS. book, commencing A.D. 1646, in the handwriting of William Bendy, Clerk of the Peace for that county, to which office he was appointed by the then Custos Rotulorum, the Earl of Manchester, in the last-mentioned year.

This gentleman was of King's Swinford, in Staffordshire, and his initials, "G. B." (Gulielmus Bendy), with the date "Jan., 1646," are written inside the cover at the beginning of the book. He died in 1684, before and after which time, till the year 1723, there are some entries in the handwriting of William Bendy his son, but none of later date.

The entries by the father consist chiefly of various official and legal documents, extracts of Acts of Parliament, etc., many of them appertaining to his office; those by the son are family memorandums, for the most part relating to purchases of land.

The most interesting articles relate to military transactions, and to proceedings of the Committee for plundered Ministers within the County, during the time of the Commonwealth. G. YATES.

NOMINA JUSTIC' PACIS IN COM' STAFF.

April 26, 1647.

Henr' Comes Kanc'.
Ed'r'us Comes Manchester.
Will'm Lenthall, Prolocutor.
Ed'r'us Atkins, Baro Scacc'.
Joh'es Wilde, Serviens ad legem.
Will' Brereton, Bart.
Ric'us Skeffington, Miles.
Joh'es Wirley, Miles.
Oliver' St. John, Sollicit' gen'.
Sam. Browne.
Ed'us Prideaux.
Joh'es Bowyer.
Mich. Noble.
Simon Rugeley.
Leicester Barbour.
Ed'r'us Leigh.
Geo. Bowes.
Hen. Stone.
Ric. Houghton.
Tho. Crompton.
Mat. Moreton.
Mich. Biddulph de Elmhurst.
Joh'es Swynfen.
Ed'r'us Manwaring, jun.
Will'm Jolly.
Tho. Kinnersly de Loxley.
Hen. Goreing de Kinston.
Joh'es Chetwood de Oakely.
Tho. Parkes de Willingsworth.
Alexander Wightwick de Wightwicke.
Ric. Flyer de Hints.
Ed'r'us Broughton de Longdon.
Joh'es Whorwood de Stourton.
Ric. Pyott de Streethai.
Roger Hurt.
Antho. Ruddyard.
Philip Jackson.
Sam. Terrick.

Alrewas.

[1794, *Part II., p.* 803.]

A remarkable instance of the sudden deficiency of the River Trent occurs in the parish registers of Alrewas, in which various historical events and other curious circumstances are recorded for upwards of fifty years by John Faulkener, vicar. The entry is as follows: "An'o D'ni 1581, an'oq; reg. re. Elizabethæ 23.—This 21 day of December an'o 1581 was the water of Trent dryed up, and sodenly fallen so ebbe, that I, J. F., went over into the halle meddow in a low peare of showes about IIII of the cloke in the afternoone. And so it was never in the remembrance of any man then living at that time in the drowghtest yeare that any man had knowen; and the same water in the morning before was bancke full, which was very straunge." S. SHAW, Jun.

Alton.

[1792, *Part I., p* 881.]

In a tour which I made this last summer through the Midland Counties, amongst other remains of ancient structures, I visited Alton Castle, in Staffordshire, between Cheadle and Ashborne. It is situated at the apparent termination of a most romantic valley about a mile in length. In the bottom flows the Churnet, bounded on one side by abrupt and craggy rocks, rising to a tremendous height, and on the other by well-cultivated enclosures, skirted by a hanging wood. Alton castle and church form the termination of this vista. The castle occupies a large extent of ground; the outer wall, though much shattered, still remains, as also two or three of the towers. The space within the walls was lately converted to the purposes of a bowling-green, but is now laid down as a meadow, and bears a very good crop of grass. Its situation must formerly have rendered it a place of great strength. On three sides the walls are situate on the edge of the precipice; on the remaining side, by which alone it was accessible, it appears to have been defended by vast piles of masonry. The singularly beautiful and romantic situation of this venerable structure naturally excited my curiosity to know when, and by what means, it was reduced to its present ruinous condition; but of this I was able to procure very little information. Tradition says that it was demolished by the Parliamentary forces during the civil wars. . . .

Ersdswick, in his "History of Staffordshire," mentions the founder of this castle, as well as of Croxden Abbey (another noble ruin in the neighbourhood), to have been Bertrand de Verdun, temp. Henry II. This castle and manor, after passing through several noble families, into which they were carried by female heirs, at length became the property of John Talbot, first Earl of Shrewsbury,

in right of his wife; and in this noble family the castle and manor of Alton remains to this present time, a space of near four hundred years. VIATOR.

Armitage.

[1782, *p.* 281.]

About the middle of April, 1782, as some labourers employed by Mr. Moor, of Armitage, in the county of Stafford, were digging up a piece of ground in order to make a garden, they discovered at the depth of 2 feet from the surface some Roman weapons in brass. Accurate drawings of two of these I herewith enclose. They are four in number; two of them are supposed to be bolt-heads of the balista, the other two are assuredly heads of Roman spears. They are much corroded by lying in the earth, but are finely encrusted with ærugo, as smooth and beautiful as if encrusted with a green varnish. They are of different sizes, and the drawings I send you are something smaller than the originals. A singularity appears to me in both the bolt-heads, viz., an ear or loop on one side only. The opinion of your antiquarian correspondents is desired as to the use of that appendage (see the Plate annexed).

Dr. Plott, in his "History of Staffordshire," pp. 403, 404, gives us a representation and description of both these species of weapons, though those he has delineated are somewhat different from these in shape. The bolt-head he supposes to have belonged to the catapulta, of which some doubt may possibly be entertained; and the spear he calls the venabulum, or hunting-spear of the Romans, in which, perhaps, he is not mistaken.

The antiquities I am now describing are placed in my museum, where any curious person may inspect them. RICH. GREENE.

Audley.

[1813, *Part II., pp.* 113-115.]

Audley parish is situate in the north division of the hundred of Pirehill, in the county of Stafford, and comprises seven townships, viz., Audley, Bignall End, Eardley End, Halmer End, Knowle End, Park End, and Talk. The village of Audley is about 4 miles to the north-west of Newcastle-under-Lyne.

The population of the parish, according to the return made in 1811, was 2,618 inhabitants (1,355 males and 1,263 females), and the number of houses 475.

Coal abounds in this parish, and the collieries afford employment to a considerable part of the poor, whose wages per week for each man, in the places where I made the inquiry, on an average are about 18s. Such as take their work so much per yard will earn an increase of 6s. or 7s. per week each man.

The price of coal varies according to quality and situation.

About a mile or two from the village of Audley, at Alsager Bank, Bignal End, etc., it is sold from 8s. to 9s. a ruck, each ruck varying from 25 to 30 cwt. in weight, and being in dimensions at some pits a little more than two cubical yards. At another pit a ruck was stated to be eight draughts, *i.e.*, eight times the quantity contained in the utensil or vessel in which the coal is raised from the pits.

The Church.

Audley Church is a stone building, situate in the midst of the village, and consists of a nave, a north and south aisle, a tower at the west end, and a chancel at the east end of the nave. In the interior, the nave is separated from each side aisle by five pointed arches. The seats in both aisles and nave are pews of a uniform construction, and have the appearance of being newly-made. An ancient gallery is at the west end of the nave, which, it is said, formerly belonged to the old church at Newcastle-under-Lyne, and will hold about eighty; the whole church, I guess, will contain about eight hundred persons.

On the north side of the partition, between the nave and chancel, is the following inscription, in capital letters, carved on wood:

"Deum time, Regem honorate, Domine salvum fac Regem."

The Lord's Prayer, Decalogue, and Creed, are well printed on tables, neatly decorated, at the east end of the nave, over the entrance into the chancel; on the south side of which entrance is the reading-desk and pulpit.

In the south wall of the chancel are three stone seats and a piscina, in niches with trefoil heads. These seats, as in other churches, have a gradual ascent in height from the ground, the nearest to the east wall being the highest seat.

Monumental Inscriptions.

In the chancel, on the south wall, on a brass plate, near to the small door of entrance:

"Reliquiæ Radulphi Henshall, Pharmacopolæ Londinensis, hunc locum juxta sunt depositæ; sexto die Julii obiit anno Dom' 1735, atque ætatis 44."

Within a niche in the opposite wall, on a plain altar-tomb, about half a yard in breadth, is a recumbent figure, in cap and surplice, above which are fixed two brass plates, the first inscribed in capital letters:

"You Scholars raysed have this Picture here,
Applye your Books, and see that God you fear."

On the other, in capital letters:

"Hic Imaginem Edvardi Vernon (Divinarum Literarum Professoris) videre licet; qui Scholæ Publicæ, Librariæ, Pavimenti, Fontis Com'vnis, ac Pauperum Tunicarum Primvs Fvndator ac Donator fvit. An'° D'ni 1622."

This tomb is enclosed by a plain wooden palisade.

Within the rails of the altar, on the floor, on a brass plate, in capital letters:

"Here lyeth the Bodies of William Abnet, Gent., and Anne his wife, the which William died y^e^ 24^th^ of Septemb^r^ in Anno Do'ni 1628."

A stone slab on the floor of the chancel is inscribed to the memory of the Rev. Joseph Wishaw, Vicar of Audley, who died April 3, 1721, aged 51.

And another to the memory of Joshua Stonhewer, vicar, who died January 12, 1790, aged 53.

On an altar-tomb at the east end of the nave, near to the north aisle, is a recumbent effigy in armour, with a lion at his feet. No inscription is visible; but, according to tradition, it is said to represent Broughton Delves, Esq., an armour-bearer to Lord Audley, or his brother, in the reign of Edward III.*

On a mural monument in the north aisle:

"Near to this place is interred the Body of Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Thomas and Mary Roylance, who departed this life May y^e^ 25^th^, 1761, aged 18 years."

[Verses omitted.]

"Mary, wife of Thomas Roylance, was interr'd 15^th^ March, 1764, aged 61. Thomas Roylance, Gent., died the 11^th^ of February, 1788, aged 86 years."

Arms: Azure, a tilting-spear in bend or; impaling Gules, a falcon proper rising.

Several slabs in the north aisle are inscribed to the family of Cradock, and record the following:

"John and his wife Frances Cradock. She died Sep. 24^th^, 1604. He died Dec. 20, 1618.

"John Cradock, Gent., died in y^e^ 79th year of his age, and was buried March 31^st^, 1705, 'To whom no man was superior in Charity und Sincerity.'

"John Cradock was born at Betley, Feb. 18, 1723, and died there Feb. 13, 1745.

"George C., late of Hartford College, Oxford, was born July 9, 1725, and died March 26, 1755."

"Charles C. A. B., late Vicar of Audley, and Curate of Betley, and heretofore of Queen's College, Oxford, was born Nov. 12, 1726, and died June 22^nd^, 1753."

Under one of the middle arches that separate the north aisle and nave is an altar-tomb, over which is raised a plain pointed arch, surmounted at each end and in the middle by two balls; the top slab is inscribed:

"Reliquiæ Johannis Cradock, Gen. viri eximiæ prudentiæ et sinceritatis, integræ erga omnes charitatis, magni erga suos amoris; nati Jan. 19, 1656, denatl Sep. 9, 1721; hic sunt depositæ in fide beatæ resurrectionis.

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* Apedale, about a mile or two to the south of Audley, is said to have been the residence of this family. The remains of a foss are now to be seen there; but the place consists of only two farmhouses, one of which is probably on the site of the old mansion.

"Theophila Vidua prædicti Johannis obiit Feb. 3, 1742, anno ætatis 80. Veritas, sinceritas, charitas, fidei observantia, et industria: hæ illam ornârunt virtutes."

Arms: Cradock, Argent, on a chevron azure, three garbs or; impaling a charge similar to the figures 3, 4, 5, 6, in Plate II. of your number for December 1808, p. 1073, which your correspondent "Z. H.," etc., noticed as being held by angels, carved as ornaments, in the chapel founded and built by John Lane, an eminent merchant and clothier, of Collumpton, co. Devon; and which figures are explained by another correspondent, "N. O.," vol. lxxix., p. 16, as being a mark called by merchants and manufacturers the "Crowfoot."

On the four corners of the whole coat on the tomb are four angels.

On a white marble tablet at one end of, and fixed perpendicular to the above, is inscribed:

"Johannes Cradock, vir integer vitæ, prudens et pius, obiit 7° Feb. 1758, ann. æt. 72^mo.

"Anastasia Conjux inculpabilis et pientissima obiit 23° Feb., 1763, ann. æt. 75^mo."

On a mural marble monument on the north side of the nave:

"This Monument is erected to the Memory of Charles Tollet, who died 28th of June, 1776, aged 15 years. A Youth of a most promising Genius, and is happy through Mercy in Death.

"Also rests the body of Catherine Tollet, who died October the 30th, 1780, aged 14 years, being the last and only hope of Charles Tollet, Esq., by Catherine, his beloved wife."

On a distinct smaller tablet, on the lower part of the same monument:

"Near this place lies also the body of Anastasia Tollet, who died 25th of June, 1778, aged 14 years.

"A most amiable disposition, remarkably ingenious, and very affectionate to her lamenting Parents."

Arms: Checky argent and azure, on a chevron engrailed or, three anchors erect azure; on a chief Gules, a lion passant argent.

On a mural marble monument, on the south side of the nave:

"Sacred to the Memory of Thomas Rowley, of Mill-End, in this parish, Gent., who departed this Life the 4th day of February, 1779, aged 77 years.

"Also in Memory of Thomas and Hannah, Son and Daughter of the above Thomas Rowley and Sarah his wife. Hannah died October the 13th, 1766, aged ten months; Thomas died October 23rd, 1768, aged 11 months.

"Near this place is likewise deposited the Body of Jane Swinnerton, Niece to the above Thomas and Sarah Rowley. She died December the 4th, 1784, in the 16th Year of her Age."

To the east of the above, on the same wall, on another monument:

"Here lyeth the Body of Anne Eardley, Widow of Edward Eardley, of Eardley, Esq., whome she suruiued 19 years, liueing a Religious, Honourable, and truly Widow-like Life, and died the 9th of September, Anno Dom' 1676."

Arms: Argent, on a chevron azure, three garbs or; on a canton Gules, a fret or; impaling Gules, a bend sinister azure, between two bendlets argent. Crest: a Goat salient or.

The dexter and sinister sides of the above coat are painted at the bottom of the monument on distinct shields.

On a mural monument at the east end of the nave, by the reading-desk:

"Sacred to the Memory of Elizabeth and Alice, the only daughters and co-heirs of Edward Eardley, of Eardley, in y^e^ County of Stafford, Esq., who are interr'd near this place.

"Elizabeth, married to Robert, Son and Heir Apparent of Sir Nicholas Wilmot, of Osmaston, in y^e^ County of Derby, Kt., and had issue by him one Daughter, Ann, married to Robert Revell, of Carnfield, in y^e^ County of Derby, Esq.; and Seven Sons, viz., Robert, married to Ursula, one of y^e^ Daughters and Co-heirs of Sir Samuel Marow, of Berkswell, in the County of Warwick, Bart.; Nicholas to Sarah, Daughter of Joseph Lloyd, of London, Esq.; Edward unmarried; John to Catherine, daughter of Frances Barker, of London, Esq.; Charles unmarried; Christopher to Ann, Sister to George Mountague, Earl of Hallifax; Henry to Catherine, daughter of Christopher Dawson, of Arthington, in y^e^ County of York, Esq.

"Alice died unmarried June 27, 1713, ætat. 66.

"Elizabeth died May 11^th^, 1715, ætat. 70.

"Erected by all y^e^ Children of Elizabeth then living (Nicholas and Henry being dead), who were her Executors, in Remembrance of such eminent Examples of Piety and Virtue, 1716."

Arms: Azure, on a fess or, three escalops argent, between three griffins' heads erased of the same; impaling, Argent, on a chevron gules, three garbs or, and a canton gules, bearing a fret or.

This coat is at the top of the monument; and at the bottom is the sinister side of the same arms on a lozenge.

Near to the above, on a brass plate, fixed on an altar-tomb in the nave:

"Ici gist mons. Thom's d'Audeley chiualer fra mons. James d'Audele seigno' de helegh de rouge chastell qi' morult, le XXIV de Januar l'an de gre' M°CCCLXXXV qui uit: de qi alme dieu p' sa pite eit merci. Amen."

Above the inscription, on a distinct brass plate, is the figure of the knight in armour.

[1813, *Part II., pp.* 420-423.]

The following statement of benefactions is taken from the tables fixed up in different parts of the church, but the arrangement has been changed, for more easy reference; and a few verbal alterations made, not changing the sense.

I. *A School House and Free School.*

At the east end of the churchyard in Audley is erected a school-house, which, I guess, will hold a hundred boys or more.

"Edward Vernon, preacher of the Gospel, rector of Welford, co. Gloucester, did in his life-time, at his own proper charge, erect a

School-house in Audley, wherein to teach the children of the said parish."

The benefactors in the endowment of the free school were:

1. "The same Edward Vernon who, out of zeal for God's glory, and his love for learning, in his lifetime gave £120 to purchase land for the maintenance of a schoolmaster, who should freely teach the children of the parish of Audley for ever."

2. Richard Vernon (brother to the said Edward Vernon), parson of Hanbury, in Worcestershire, gave £40 to the parish of Audley. One moiety of the use thereof to be given to the schoolmaster, the other to the poor of the parish for ever.

3. William Johnson, of Jamage, within the hamlet of Talk-upon-the-Hill, by his last will gave £100 for the use above said.

Which moneys (of the above three benefactors) were employed according to the wills of the testators, Anno Domini 1611. And the land so purchased lieth in the Upper and Nether Teane, in the county of Stafford, to remain for the use of the free school of Audley for ever.

4. John Stonier, of Bignal End, in the parish of Audley, bachelor, did, in his last will and testament, 1668, give to the free school of Audley aforesaid the sum of £60.

5. Thomas Lovatt, of Eardley End, yeoman; and

6. John Middleton, of Bignal End, yeoman, both in the parish of Audley, did each give the sum of £50 for the use of the said school.

The land purchased by the donations of the three last-named benefactors, amounting to £160, January 4, 1671, lieth within the lordship of Knutton, near Newcastle-under-Lyme, co. Stafford, to remain for the use of the said free school of Audley for ever.

Additional Provision for the Instruction of Poor Children.

7. Daniel Poole, cler., among other his pious gifts, did by his last will, bearing date the 16th day of July, 1714, give the sum of £50, the interest or profits thereof to be employed for ever to teach poor children of the parish of Audley (whose parents are really poor) to read and write, and to be instructed in the Catechism of the Church of England. He (Daniel Poole) was born in the parish of Woolstanton, but obtained his learning at the free school of Audley from Mr. Joseph Whishaw, vicar and schoolmaster of the same. He died at Oswestry in 1716, in his forty-first year.

8. George Boughey, late of London, gent., by his last will and testament, gave to the parish of Audley £50, the interest thereof to be given yearly to a writing-master to teach twelve poor boys to write and cast accounts, which is to be paid by Mr. George Boughey, of Audley, nephew and sole executor to the above-said George Boughey, of London, deceased June 13, 1711.

Books.

Edward Vernon, above-named (No. 1), gave twenty-four books to be kept in the school-house built by him, for the use of the master and scholars for ever.

II. *Relief to the Poor in Bread.*

John Middleton (No. 6 above), late of Bignal End, in this parish, did, by his last will and testament, out of his pious and charitable intentions, give and bequeath the sum of £72 to and for the use of the poor inhabitants of this parish, £52 whereof were to be employed, and the interest thereof to be distributed by the churchwardens and overseers of this parish in twelve penny loaves every Lord's Day for ever among twelve poor widows and ancient people, being good livers and inhabitants of Bignal End, Halmer End, Knowl End, Park End, and Eardley End, within this parish, and such persons as should come every Lord's Day to the church, and hear Divine service, unless hindered by sickness or some other lawful cause.

9. William Abnett, of Audley, gent. (see "Monumental Inscriptions," p. 114), did leave by his last will 18s., paid out of a field at Winbrooke, called Up-Smith Hill, to be dealt in groat loaves by the church officers on Good Friday for ever to twelve poor people, who are no common beggars, of the several parishes of Audley, Betley, Keel, and Woolstanton.

10. Mr. Thomas Twiss, late of this parish, left by will the sum of 50s., the interest thereof to be given in twopenny loaves to the poor inhabitants of Audley and Bignal End on St. John the Evangelist's Day yearly for ever.

11. Mrs. Mary Twiss, relict of the aforesaid Mr. T. T., left by will the sum of £10, the interest thereof to be given in groat loaves to the poor inhabitants of Audley township and Bignal End on St. John the Evangelist's Day yearly for ever.

12. John Viggars, late of Halmer End, in this parish, left by will the sum of £5 for ever, the interest thereof to be dealt in twopenny loaves every St. John's Day among the poor inhabitants of Halmer End and Knowl End. He died April 24, 1729.

III. *Relief to the Poor in Clothing.*

John Middleton (No. 6) willed the remaining £20 out of the £70 (see above) to be employed by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of this parish, and the interest thereof to be disposed of by them for the buying of clothes of such poor aged inhabitants of this parish who have lived in honest fame and good repute as they, the said churchwardens and overseers, shall think meet, and the said clothes or monies to buy the same to be delivered by them to the said poor

inhabitants on the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ yearly for ever.

IV. *Relief to the Poor in Money.*

13. Mrs. Elizabeth Hastings, late of Eardley Hall, in this parish, bequeathed for the use of the poor £10.*

Richard Vernon (see No. 2) gave the other moiety of the use of £40 to the poor of the parish for ever.

14. George Boughey, Esq., late of the Inner Temple, London, left by will £25 per annum, charged on his estates in the county of Stafford, to be distributed yearly to the poor of this parish at the discretion of his heirs.

V. *Assistance to Young Tradesmen.*

15. John Unwyn, of Clough, in this parish, gent., who deceased this life Anno Domini 1641, did by his last will give to the parish of Audley the sum of £80 to be lent to eight young tradesmen in equal portions, which eight are to be chosen, two out of each quarter of the parish, and they to occupy the same for the space of three years gratis without paying interest for the same.

VI. *Church Pews.*

16. Mr. Richard Alsager, late of London, did in his lifetime give the sum of £50 towards new-pewing of this church, which was done Anno Domini 1793.

VII. *Stoe Wall Well and a Pavement.*

Edward Vernon (No. 1) repaired a well, called the Stoe Wall, and a pavement in the middle of the town of Audley, and for the keeping thereof in repair left 20s., the use whereof to be given every Trinity Sunday to some poor man, who should see that the same repairs were made, and so to continue for ever.

VIII. *The Minister of Talk.*

J. Unwyn, gent. (No. 15) gave the sum of 30s., to be paid by equal portions on the Feast of St. John Baptist and St. Martin the Bishop in winter, for and towards the maintenance of a preaching minister in the chapel of Talk-upon-the Hill for ever.

Talk is a township, as before noted, and a chapelry to Audley. Its population, according to the last return, was 817, which is included in that of the parish noticed in the beginning of this letter.

In the summer of 1781 an explosion of a cask of gunpowder took place in the hamlet of Talk, as a carrier was conveying the same in a waggon to its place of destination. The driver and horses all

* The table which contains this benefaction, and the preceding of J. Middleton, ends thus: "Translated from a copy bearing date Anno Domini 1601."

perished, and two houses were thereby demolished, in the ruins of one of which the body of the driver was said to be found in a mangled state. According to my informant, the regular carrier or man belonging to the waggon was not the unhappy sufferer. He had entrusted the care of his team to another while he was transacting business, or taking refreshment in a public-house, and thus providentially escaped an untimely end.

Curious Well.—Between Talk and the village of Audley, about a mile from the former place, is a spring of sulphurous water of a dirty bluish cast, which rises by the side of a brook, whose water is tinged thereby for a considerable distance. Sometimes the water of this well is remarkably muddy, but whether such variation is owing to change of weather or other cause has not yet been ascertained. It is highly valued by the common people, who extol it as a specific in cutaneous disorders, and call it a great sweetener of the blood, etc. It is not at all improbable that it possesses some valuable medicinal properties.

The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's Books at £6 13s. 4d.; about one hundred years ago its clear yearly value was stated at £42. It is situate in the deanery of Newcastle and Stone, archdeaconry of Stafford, and diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. The patron and impropriator is G. Tollet, Esq., of the adjoining parish of Betley. The incumbent, Rev. W. Hicken; the curate, Rev. T. Wright, who has performed the chief part of the duty for many years. Both incumbent and curate reside in houses adjoining the churchyard. Divine service on a Sunday is prayers and a sermon, both morning and evening.

Talk Chapel, as far as I can discern from an almost obliterated inscription on its east wall, was built by subscription about the year 1749. It will hold about 140. Divine service on a Sunday is once every evening, prayers and a sermon; the incumbent, Rev. — Hill. The endowment of the chapel is chiefly in land, situate in different parishes, and its reputed value is £100 per annum.

Dissenting Houses.—Within the last four or five years no less than two chapels for Dissenters have been erected in this parish: one at Alsager, or Auger Bank, which will hold about 120; another near the village of Audley, which will hold about 400; and a third is intended to be built near Talk. The expense of the two already built, I should conjecture, was not less than £1,000.

W. SNAPE.

Betley.

[1809, *Part I., pp.* 521-523.]

About six miles to the west of Newcastle-under-Line is situate the village of Betley, which was formerly a market-town. It stands on the borders of Cheshire, but is in the Hundred of Pirehill (north),

and county of Stafford. There are two gentlemen's seats in it: the one, called Betley Court, the residence of Sir Thomas Fletcher, Bart.; and the other, which is a more modern building, belongs to George Tollet, Esq., and is termed Betley Hall. Near to the village is a fine pool called Betley Meer, which belongs to the Earl of Wilton. The parish is adjoining to that of Madeley,* and, according to Capper, in 1801 contained 138 houses and 670 inhabitants. Betley is now chiefly remarkable for its good gardens, which contribute much in the supply of vegetables to the neighbouring towns and places.

The church is situate in the village, and has been built at three different periods. It has a nave, side aisles, a chancel at the east end, and a square tower at the west end of the nave. The most ancient part of the edifice is the nave and aisles, which, as well as the chancel, have plain common tile roofs. The windows of the former are also very plain, being (to use the expression of your correspondent, "An Architect") "merely common make-shift frames for containing quarries of glass." The side walls of the nave are part wood and part plaster; the timber is framed after the ancient manner, and the spaces between filled with plaster, etc. The aisles were, no doubt, coeval with the nave, but from prior decay the walls thereof have been rebuilt with common brick. In the interior, the nave is separated from the aisles by four plain pointed arches on each side. The pillars which support them are merely single trunks of trees, and the architraves of the arches (if I may use the expression) are plain curved pieces of wood. From the three middle pillars or trunks are turned three similar plain wooden curves across the nave, thus making the nave to exhibit a succession of three pointed arches.

I guess the dimensions as follows: The length of the nave and aisles may be about fifteen or sixteen yards. The aisles are narrow, being not quite three yards in breadth. The breadth of the nave is about six yards.

There is a small west gallery, and at the east end of the north aisle and nave is a large seat, enclosed by a wooden screen, say about eight or nine feet in height from the floor.

The nave is separated from the chancel by a wooden partition, on the south side of which is the desk and pulpit, which are adorned with crimson velvet, as is also the altar. The upper part of the partition is neatly ornamented, on the side fronting the nave, with three painted tables of the Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, and the Belief. Above the Lord's Prayer and Belief is painted a dove in glory; and above the Ten Commandments are the king's arms, on each side of which is painted a group of three angels. The doves and angels are on a blue ground.

The chancel is built of stone, in a good style, and seems to have been erected by one of the Egertons, as appears from the following

* *Vide post, sub. tit.*, Madeley.

imperfect inscription on some panes of the east window, extending across it in one line :

"This Chancel build . . . an'o : Do' 1610 . . . by Raulph . . . Esquire . . . . . to Sir Raulph . . . Wrine hill, knt . . . had yssue. . . . ."

Upon entering the chancel from the nave, there hangs a hatchment in memory of Mr. Tollet against the north wall. Arms : Checky, argent and azure, on a chevron engrailed or, three anchors azure ; on a chief gules, a lion passant argent (Tollet). It has an escutcheon of pretence argent, bearing on a chevron azure three garbs or (Cradocke). Crest : A tower proper, surmounted by a pyramid azure, round which appears, coiled and descending, a serpent proper, langued gules. Motto : "Prudentia in adversis."

At the east end of the chancel are two mural monuments. That on the north wall is the most ancient ; it contains two small Ionian columns, the bases and capitals of which have been gilt. These columns support an entablature, the middle part of which is heightened by a circular arch or round pediment. At the top, above each column, is a shield, each bearing the same arms, viz. :

Gules, a fess ermine between three arrow-heads argent, and between the two in chief is a crescent of the same, for difference (A).

The entablature, small columns, and the member or part upon which the columns are supported, form a kind of niche by projecting about nine inches from the wall, within which are a small male and female image in a devotional attitude, with a desk between them, on each side of which is a book open. Behind the female is a third figure, a female, and smaller than the other two. Above these figures, on the background, are three coats of arms. The two outer coats are the same as (A), above described. The middle coat, which is the largest, is quarterly ; the first and second, and the third and fourth, are respectively alike.

The first and second quarters are tierce in pale : (1) The same as (A), above described ; (2) Ermine, a fess gules, and fretty or ; (3) Argent, on a chevron gules, within a border engrailed of the last, five besants.

The second and third quarters are tierce in pale : (1) Argent, a chevron sable between three water bougets of the last ; (2) Vert, a chevron argent between three talbots of the last ; (3) the same as (A).

Above this last coat, within the circular and highest part of the entablature, is the following inscription :

"HERE LIE Y^e^ BODIES OF RALPH EGERTON, OF BETLEY, ESQVIER, AND FRAVNCES HIS WIFE, DAVGHT: TO S^r^ RALPH EGERTON, OF WRINE HILL, KNI^t^, WHO HAD ISSVE S^r^ RALPH EGERTO', KNI^t^, WILLIA^m^, MARY, AND FRAVNCES, W^ch^ RALPH DIED Y^e^ 17 OF APRIL, 1610."

Directly opposite, on the south wall, is a modern marble monument,

having the arms of Tollet on a shield at the top, below which, on a white tablet, is inscribed :

"IN THE YEAR 1768, GEORGE TOLLET, ESQ:, ERECTED THIS TO THE MEMORY OF HIS MOTHER, M^rs ELIZABETH TOLLET, AND HIS GRANDFATHER GEORGE TOLLET, ESQ: ; COMMISSIONER OF THE NAVY IN THE REIGNS OF KING WILLIAM AND QUEEN ANNE. THEY BOTH DIED IN A VERY ADVANCED AGE, AND ARE BURIED IN A VAULT BENEATH THE OPPOSITE MONUMENT. ALLSO IN THE SAME VAULT LIETH INTERR'D THE BODY OF THE ABOVE NAMED GEORGE TOLLET, THE YOUNGER, ESQ:, WHO DIED UPON THE 22nd DAY OF OCTOBER, 1779, IN THE 54th YEAR OF HIS AGE. HE WAS LEARNED AND CHARITABLE."

Benefactions.

The following account of the benefactions to the poor is collected and abridged from the tables hung up in different parts of the church.

1. *A Schoolhouse.*

Mr. Richard Steele, of Barthomley, gave £10 to build a schoolhouse for the use of the schoolmaster ; elected by the parish for ever.

2. *The Instruction of Poor Children.*

Marmaduke Jolly bequeathed £10, the interest to be annually applied to the teaching of poor children at Betley School. This is paid by the churchwardens.

Mrs. Mary Lea, widow, late of Wrine Hill, gave a yearly rentcharge of 40s., to be issuing from certain lands in the parish, for the keeping of ten poor children to school yearly for ever.

3. *Apprenticeships.*

William Palmer, a native of Betley, left unto trustees the sum of £73, to be disposed of at their discretion for the best use of the poor. After having improved the donation by employing it at interest for a while, they bought a piece of land with it, situate in Audley and Halmore End, called the Rushy Keys ; and by deed they appointed the yearly rent for ever to be employed every year for setting to apprenticeships the poor children of the inhabitants of Betley. The particulars respecting the appointment, rejecting, and number of trustees, etc., are to be seen on a board in the west gallery.

4. *Relief in Clothing.*

Mrs. Mary Lea (see article 2) left by will to trustees the sum of £30, appointing the interest thereof to be annually disposed of by them, for the clothing of poor people in Ransall and Wrine Hill, at their discretion.

5. *Relief in Bread and Money.*

Mr. Joseph Coape, of this parish, gave £10, the interest thereof to be paid for ever by the trustees, and to be given in bread to twenty poor people on the first Sunday in the year and on Whit Sunday.

Mr. Richard Gorton, of the parish of Muccleston, bequeathed £10 to the churchwardens, and appointed the interest thereof to be distributed at their discretion to the poor every Candlemas Day.

Marmaduke Jolly (see article 2) bequeathed £10, and appointed the interest thereof to be given to the poor for ever every Christmas.

Mr. John Dale, of Radwood, gave £10, the interest to be paid yearly to the poor.

Mrs. Ann Shaw, a native of Betley, gave to trustees £10, the interest to be paid yearly to the poor.

Mrs. Mary Lea (see articles 2 and 4) gave a rent-charge of 40s. (charged on the same lands as that in article 2), to be dealt in bread yearly to poor widows in Betley and Wrine Hill.

The following benefaction is, of course, extinct:

Miss Hannah Jones, of London, gave £24, to be given weekly in bread to twelve poor widows for ten years, from Lady Day, 1706.

She also gave £20 towards rebuilding the steeple and hanging the bells.

The tower is built of stone, has a parapet wall at the top, and on each of the four angles has been placed a plain urn. The vane is perforated with 1713, which was the time, we may presume, when it was built, a conjecture which is strengthened by the last recorded benefaction of Miss H. Jones.

The living is a curacy in the Deanery of Newcastle and Stone, Archdeaconry of Stafford, and Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry.

Queen Anne's Bounty was obtained for it in 1717, when the Right Hon. Lord William Powlet and others gave twenty acres of common ground, to the value of £200, towards the augmentation.

The incumbent is the Rev. W. Bayley.

Patron: George Tollet, Esq., of Betley Hall.

Though Betley Church in appearance is inferior to many in the neighbourhood, yet I have thought it worth my while to be thus minute in detailing its parts, etc., because, in my opinion, it affords a specimen of the manner in which the ancients made their first attempts in their progress towards forming the pointed arch and groins, which are now so much admired for contributing to the grandeur and ornament of the gothic style. ΥΥ. Σ.

Biddulph.

[1844, *Part II., p.* 584.]

"Bidulph being in the confine of the shire, joineth unto Cheshire, within less than two miles of Congleton, and is a goodly manor, where Francis Bidulph, lately deceased, a gentleman of an ancient house, and taking his name of the place, hath lately there builded a very state-like and fair new house of stone."

Such is Sampson Erdeswick's account of Biddulph Hall, written in 1598.

Francis Biddulph, the founder, married Isabella, daughter of Sir Thomas Giffard, of Chillington, and had issue Richard, his son and heir.

The manor-house of Biddulph was garrisoned during the civil war,* and, in consequence, demolished. At a Committee of Sequestrations at Stafford, March 21, 1643-44, it was ordered "that the remainder of Biddulph House bee preserved, according to Mr. Biddulph's own desire, toward the repayringe of a little old house of his, not above two miles from it."†

After the Restoration, Richard Biddulph, of Biddulph, Esq., having married the heiress of Goring, of Bodecton (commonly called Burton), in Sussex, removed to that place, where they remained in 1817 (see their pedigree in Cartwright's "Rape of Arundel," p. 282).

The ruins of this Elizabethan mansion now remain in the state represented in the engraving.

Blore Heath.

[1772, *p.* 413.]

In a late journey into Staffordshire, I had an opportunity of seeing the place where the battle of Blore Heath was fought (1459). This place is situated in the county of Stafford and parish of Drayton, in Shropshire, about two miles east of that town. Blore Heath was once a large common, but much of it is now enclosed. The account historians give of this battle is—that in 37 Henry VI. James Touchet, second Lord Audley of that house, was sent to encounter Richard Nevill, Earl of Salisbury, who had assembled forces to support the house of York in their pretensions to the crown. Lord Audley, having raised about 10,000 men, approached near to the Earl in a plain called Blore Heath, in order to prevent his march to London, whereupon the Earl, finding it impossible to avoid an engagement, encouraged his men, and encamped on the side of a deep brook the night before the day of St. Thecle, when the battle was fought. The Lord Audley, with the vanguard of his army, passed the water; but the Earl and his men, being desperate, behaved with such valour, that after a sharp encounter the Lord Audley, with most of his men, were slain before the rest of the forces could come to his or the vanguard's assistance. It appears, from a view of the place, that the Earl was encamped on the north-east of the brook, and Lord Audley on the south-west; and as the brook is very shallow, the defeat was more probably occasioned by the difficulty of ascending the hill, than by the rear of the Lancastrian army not being able to pass the water to support their vanguard. The neighbouring

* Harwood's "Erdeswick," edit. 1844, p. 7. † *Ibid.*, p. 4.

inhabitants have a tradition that, during and after the battle, the brook ran with blood. A cross of wood was erected on the field of battle, which being thrown down some years since by a cow rubbing against it, the lord of the manor ordered a stone pedestal to be placed there, and the old cross fixed upon it. The height of the pedestal and the cross is, as near as I could guess, about three yards. On the east front of the pedestal is this inscription:

"On this spot was fought the battle of Blore-heath, in 1459. Lord Audley, who commanded for the side of Lancaster, was defeated and slain. To perpetuate the memory of the action and the place, this antient monument was repaired in 1765, at the charge of the lord of the manor, Charles Boothby Skrymsher."

The Earl of Salisbury enjoyed his victory but a short time, being made prisoner by the Lancastrians at Wakefield, 1460, and there beheaded after the battle. Of his three sons, the second son, Sir Thomas Nevill, was slain in the same battle; the eldest, Richard, Earl of Salisbury and Warwick, and the third, John, Marquis Montacute, were killed at the battle of Barnet, 1470. S. W.

[1804, *Part I., p.* 123.]

The annexed view (Plate II., Fig. 3) represents the cross at Blore Heath, in the county of Stafford. . . .*

It again stands in need of reparation; for the head is broken off. and reclines against the base. WILLIAM HAMPER.

[1812, *Part II., pp.* 602-606.]

About half a mile to the north of the village of Maer is a hill called the Byrth,† round a great part of the summit of which has been made a foss and rampart of an irregular form, corresponding with the figure of the hill, which may be nearly a mile in circumference. At the distance of a mile or more from and to the north-west of the Byrth is another hill, which is part of Maer Heath, and is called the Camp Hill. Between these are two more hills; the one very near to the Byrth, which is called the Little Byrth, and the other, which is larger, is called Coplow. Dr. Plot is of opinion that a battle was fought here about the year of our Lord 705, between Osrid, King of Northumberland, and Kenred, King of Mercia. He also conjectures Coplow Hill to be a tumulus of Osrid, and the Byrth to be a fortification or "strong-hold that Kenred had raised against him." His conjectures seem to be grounded chiefly on a quotation from Henry Huntingdon, viz., "Osrid vero rex belli infortunio juxta Mere pugnans interfectus est." In taking a view of the ground on Maer Heath, there appears to me to be nothing artificial, except the two small hills on the Camp Hill, and the foss and rampart round the Byrth.

* Referred to in the last extract.

† In some maps it is termed Burgh, Bruff, or Brough.

A few years ago George Tollet, Esq., a gentleman of learning and an antiquary, the Rev. T. Barlow (see my "Church Notes from Madeley and Betley"), and Mr. Poole, of Finney Green, and other gentlemen, went to view Maer Heath for the purpose of ascertaining whether there were any barrows. They dug into those places that had most resemblance to barrows, but found nothing like sepulchral remains. Coplow Hill is evidently the work of Nature, and as a public road has been made over part of the heath since the time of Dr. Plot, and sections made through some parts of the hills, in which regular strata appear, I am inclined to think that Osrid was slain near some other place called Mere.

The Byrth and Camp Hills were no doubt the stations of some armies in time past, and as in the contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, the battle between James Lord Audley, who fought for King Henry VI., and Richard Nevil, Earl of Salisbury, who was in arms for the house of York, took place at Blore Heath, about five or six miles distant from these stations, I shall submit a few conjectures of the probability that the Earl of Salisbury was posted on the Byrth Hill, and Lord Audley was encamped on the Camp Hill previous to the Battle of Blore Heath.

According to Rapin's "History," "Lord Audley was encamped on Blore Heath near a little river; Salisbury posted himself on the other side, as if he meant to guard the pass, and hinder his being attacked; then suddenly feigning a fear, he retired in the night, marching so as, at break of day, his enemies could still see the rear of his army. This retreat, which seemed to be with precipitation, inspiring the royalists with ardour, they began to pass the river in disorder, imagining that they had nothing to do but pursue the flying enemy. But whilst they were in this confusion—some being over the river, others in the water, and others ready to pass—the Earl of Salisbury returned, and fell upon the troops already over, who had scarce time to draw up. The fight lasted, however, four or five hours, because the king's troops were supported by those that were continually passing. But as this could not be done without confusion, the royal army was at length put to rout, with the loss of 2,400 men. Audley himself was slain, with all the principal officers, among whom were Sir Thomas Dutton, Sir John Dunne, Sir Hugh Venables, Sir Richard Molineux, Sir John Leigh, etc.

"The Cheshire men were the greatest sufferers, who wore that day little silver swans (the Prince of Wales's badge), which the queen had ordered to be distributed to all the gentlemen of the country.

"This battle was fought on September 23, 1459, about one mile from Drayton in Shropshire, on Blore Heath, which lies in Staffordshire; where, at the head of the river Sow, a stone is set up in memory of James Lord Audley, there slain."

It is not to be supposed that writers of a general engagement can

enter so minutely into details as to describe the *precise* spot where any particular river has its source. And in the hurry and confusion of a battle several transactions of subordinate consideration or importance might be omitted or misrepresented, either from want of recollection or owing to incorrect information, while the principal manœuvres are in their leading points correctly stated. The above account may probably be not exempt from such-like errors. In the first place, the stone erected to commemorate the spot where Lord Audley was slain is said to be placed at the head of the river Sow, which is not strictly correct; it is placed very near to one source of that river near Ashley and Broughton, but the brook by the side of which it is placed, I was informed by persons residing in the neighbourhood, flows into the Tearne or Tern, which joins the Severn, and thus takes a directly opposite direction to the river Sow, which unites with the Trent. It is not improbable that Maer Heath and Ashley Heath, both of which are nearly in a direct line to Blore Heath, and at no great distance from each other, were, three centuries and a half ago, considered, on account of the comparatively few enclosures, as one common and part of Blore Heath. The Byrth and Camp hills are about two miles from Whitmore, which is very near another head of the river Sow, which flows through that place a "little river." Indeed, none of the rivers thereabout, nor that by the side of which the stone commemorating Lord Audley's death is placed, can be termed great. It appears from the above account of the battle that the Earl of Salisbury obtained his victory chiefly by stratagem, that he first attempted to defend some pass—the context leads us to suppose a pass over the little river, but the rivers are mere brooks. It is not impossible, therefore, that the pass might be some particular situation in the road which the armies must have travelled. After the Earl had made a pretence of guarding some pass, he is said to have feigned a precipitate retreat, and retired in the night, yet marched so as, at break of day, his enemy could still see the rear of his army. Without making arrogant pretensions to military knowledge, I think I may hazard an opinion that it is very improbable that a general at the head of 5,000 men could feign a retreat, so as to induce his enemy, who was twice as strong, to pursue him in disorder, from an apprehension that his retreat was the effect of fear and a conscious inferiority, unless he had continued to retreat to the distance of four or five miles. If we imagine a shorter distance, it is probable that the enemy would have discovered his intentions. Besides, where was the necessity of the earl retiring in the night, yet marching so as, at break of day, his rear could be seen by the royalists, if he had retired only half a mile or so? I think we may be justified in supposing that the two armies first met, or were within sight of each other, at the distance of five or six miles from the scene of action. No place can be assigned where they were so likely to approach each

other as somewhere between the field of battle and Heleigh Castle, the seat of Lord Audley, who would, of course, think of defending his castle by placing his troops between it and the enemy. Heleigh Castle is situate about four miles to the north of the Camp Hill, and very near to the latter there is a road which leads to Madeley and to Heleigh. Also, at the foot of the Camp Hill, there are, or, previous to the late alterations made on the common by enclosures and cultivation, there were to be seen the vestiges of an old road, which took a southward direction and passed by the foot of the Byrth Hill, and from thence towards the village of Maer. From the latter place is an old road to Ashley, which lies in the direct way, or nearly so, to Blore Heath, where the battle was fought. It is not improbable that this track was the ancient road, or one of the principal old roads from Heleigh to Drayton. In which case the Byrth and Camp hills may be considered as stations in the direct road between Heleigh Castle and the scene of action. However, from the above considerations, I have indulged an opinion that Lord Audley was encamped on that part of Maer Common called the Camp Hill, and that the Earl of Salisbury was posted on the Byrth Hill opposite to Lord Audley's army, where he feigned an attempt to guard the pass; for such the road between the Byrth and Little Byrth may be called. As there is no mention made of any skirmish taking place there, we may suppose that he manifested his intentions of guarding the pass, and of preventing an attack by fortifying his situation. Vestiges of a fortification are to be seen on the summit of the Byrth Hill. I may here notice that on the Camp Hill are two mounds, once thought to have been tumuli; but when opened, they contained nothing to support that opinion, and they were probably raised merely for stations of observation. Now, as there exists no tradition of any arms having been found, or sepulchral remains discovered, I conclude that it is not improbable that the two above-named generals were posted as already observed, and when the earl abandoned his position and "feigned a fear," we may suppose that he would retreat a few miles—say five or six, which is about the distance from the Byrth Hill to where the battle was decided. The stone commemorating the spot where Lord Audley was slain is now to be seen in an enclosed field adjoining the public road from Drayton in Shropshire to Newcastle-under-Line, about two miles distant from Drayton. It is a plain cross, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, 10 inches broad, and 8 inches thick; the transverse part may be about 20 inches in length; it is fixed on a pedestal 3 feet high, so that the height from the ground is about $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet. . . .

The above cross is within a few yards of a brook, which probably the Earl of Salisbury passed, and when part of Lord Audley's troops were over, and others crossing in confusion, the earl returned, attacked, and obtained his victory.

Query.—Is it improbable that the battle alluded to by Dr. Plot

between Osrid and Kenred, was fought near Mere or Mereton in the parish of Forton, near that fine lake which ornaments the seat of Sir John Fenton Boughey, Bart., and is called Aqualate Mere? That a battle has been fought near to that place there can be no doubt, although there might exist a difference of opinion between whom. Dr. Plot writes thus:

"The Romans had some action about Willbrighton, as appears from a raised work at Morton near thereto, and which seems to be of their fashion. The large Meer, that lyes just below it, had its name of Aqualat (quasi aqua lata) from them; and the banks, on the N.N.E. side of it, the name of Anc's Hills, from some Roman Captain that lay upon them, whose name, or at least prænomen, perhaps might be Ancus. Not to mention, that all these are in or near to the parish of Forton, and that there is a village not far off also called Warton, which are both thought to derive their names from such actions."*

In reading these remarks of Dr. Plot, he seems to me to have relied much, if not solely, on conjecture, and with appearance of doubt.

The Rev. Mr. Shaw, in his obliging answers to my queries relative to the battle fought near Aqualate and other particulars, adopts Dr. Plot's conjectures, and further notices the proximity of "antient military roads to some adjoining places, which signify places of defence and battle, in proof of a battle having been fought in the neighbourhood." He further adds: "Dr. Plot, in his 'Natural History, etc., of the County,' p. 395, says that Aqualate, being a Roman name, shows that their armies lay sometime thereabout" (see p. 231a). In speaking of Forton he says: "Forton was at the Conquest included in the manor of Mere or Mereton, which derives its name from the neighbouring large pool or lake," etc. If the manor and place derived its name from the lake, we may suppose that the lake had the name of Mere at the time of and before the Conquest. Mr. Shaw also says that "Aquilate-hall was first erected by Sir Thos. Skrymsher, knt., who died in 1633.† This hall," as Mr. S. observes, "was afterwards the much-improved seat of the Baldwyns"; and I may add it is now the still more improved seat of Sir J. F. Boughey, who, a few years ago, took down part of the old hall, and built a magnificent mansion, wherein he now resides, enjoying a large fortune, with virtues that adorn his rank.

Can any of your readers inform me if Aqualate Hall was built upon the site of any other ancient building? and whether in the more ancient maps or books of antiquities Aqualate is named? In a map of Staffordshire in Camden's "Britannia" it is not named; and

* Plot, ch. x., § 6.

† This Sir Thos. Skrymsher married Ann Sneyde, a lady of the same respectable family as the present Sneyd family of Keel, in which Parish Register is the following entry: "Tho. Schrimshall, gent., and Ann Sneyde, gent., were mar^{d}. y^{e} 5^{o} Septe' 1595."

Camden wrote prior to Dr. Plot. Although a Roman name, it might have been given by Sir Thomas Skrymsher, in the same manner as Etruria, a Roman name, was given by the late Mr. Wedgwood to his seat, extensive works, and to a street built by him for his workmen, near to Newcastle-under-Line. If etymology may be admitted as a basis of probable conjecture (and it is the basis upon which Dr. Plot has made his assertions), then the names of the adjoining places will favour an opinion that the battle was fought by the Saxons; for, unless my dictionary misleads me, Morton, Warton, Winswell, Sutton, Norbury, if not Forton and Oulton, are Saxon names. Near to the last place, about twelve years ago, some ancient arms were dug out of the ground, and fell into the hands of the late Richard Whitworth, Esq., of Batchacre, which afford much stronger evidence of an action having been fought near there than the etymology of words.

As far as the tradition about bullets having been found in the trees is worthy of notice, it will bring the battle to a much later date than a Roman or Saxon engagement, because gunpowder was not invented till 1330. But the plantations about Anc's hills have not the appearance of great antiquity, and I believe they were made in the time of the Skrymshers or the Baldwyns; besides, a few bullets might have been lodged in a few trees from various accidental causes. However, all is doubtful conjecture, and I leave the subject to be determined by those who are deeper versed in antiquarian lore, and have access to better libraries than I possess, if any such should think it worth their while. WILLIAM SNAPE.

Bradley.

[1798, *Part II.*, *p.* 741.]

With this you will receive a drawing of the church of Bradley, near Penkridge, in the hundred of Cuttlestone and county of Stafford (Fig. 2). The present minister is the Rev. Mr. Brown. There is a peculiarity attached to this place; the mode of keeping in repair the fence of the churchyard is very singular, and, I believe, very ancient. It is done by the inhabitants (who are chiefly farmers), in allotments proportionate to the land they occupy in the parish, and on that account, you see, is not uniform. The church appears ancient, and is in good repair, and there are four bells in the steeple; but as my time would not allow me to make any inquiries, I barely took a drawing of it. J. CURTIS, Jun.

Burton-on-Trent.

[1751, *pp.* 406, 407.]

I send you the best account I can of the bridge at Burton-upon-Trent.

In Dr. Plott's "History of Staffordshire," in his chapter of the Works of Art, he speaks thus, p. 372: "But the most notorious

piece of work of a civil publick building in this county or anywhere of the kind, perhaps in England, is the great bridge at Burton-upon-Trent, built in the time of Bernard, abbot of Burton (as Mr. Erdeswicke proves at large), who died Anno 1175, 21 Henry II.,* all of squared freestone, strong and lofty; and containing in length, as I found it by measure, near about 515 yards, as the cart goes—*i.e.*, a quarter of a mile, and better than one-third of a furlong more; the river Trent, over which it stands, dividing itself there into three channels, and passing under it thro' 34 arches, whereof 33 had water running under them when I was there."

As Mr. Erdeswicke's account is the only piece of evidence the doctor depends upon for ascertaining the antiquity of the bridge, I will transcribe you the whole passage from an authentic manuscript, "penes me," pages 180, 181, in that most intolerably erroneous copy, printed in the year 1723.

"There is also," says my author (viz., in Burton), "a goodly bridge, well wrought of very good stone, with arches to wit, 34 over Trent: for Trent begins before it comes there to be a reasonable big river. Some be of an opinion that the first founders" (he means of the abbey, Wolfricus Spotte and Eliwithia his wife, Saxons long before the Conquest) "built the same bridge, which cannot be; for the bridge seems much newer than it would if it should be of so long continuance. And beside there are evidences extant that were made by one William de la Warde, wherein is expressed that the said William, in the time of Bernard, Abbot of Burton, dedit terram ponti de Burton, cedente sex denarios annuatim sibi & hæredibus suis in perpetuum. I take it that this William was the father of Robert, who lived in Henry III.'s time, who had much land in that country, as Newhall, Stanton, and much other; and to induce me so to think the arms of the said Robert and the rest of the la Wardes, being verré, argent, and black, stand very old in Burton church. Also Robert de Bursingcoate gave one acre of land in prato de Burscoate juxta Trent pro fabricâ pontis de Burton. So that it is clear the bridge was made of much later time than the abbey was founded."

Now, that the bridge was erected after the foundation of the abbey, I am very ready to grant, but that it was built so late as the reign of Henry II. is a concession I can by no means be prevailed upon to make. Notwithstanding Dr. Plott acquiesces so entirely in Erdeswicke's judgment that the bridge was built in the time of Abbot Bernard, *i.e.*, about the year 1175; yet (to call in question the authority of so great antiquaries) I think the contrary is evident from Mr. Erdeswicke's own citations. If William de la Warde, temp. Henry II., "dedit terram ponti," gave land to the bridge, it is very plain the bridge was then in being. Besides the donation being of land, out of which a small yearly acknowledgment was to be paid to the

* Dug., "Monas.," vol. i., in "Ab. de Burton."

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donor's family, proves very clearly the gift was for the reparation and not for the erection of the bridge. Nay, if one may conjecture in a matter of such obscurity, the bridge might possibly at that time want repairing.

The other piece of evidence, having no date, proves (if it proves anything) what I here assert, which says that Robert de Bursingcoate gave an acre of land pro fabrica pontis, etc., for the fabric, or for the use of the fabric of the bridge. So that, in all probability, the bridge was first erected very soon after the Conquest, perhaps above 600 years ago.

I am sorry it is not in my power to give you so accurate a description as Mr. Donn has done of the bridge at Biddeford ; I must therefore content myself with suggesting to you a mistake which I am surprised Mr. Erdeswicke, Dr. Plott, and yourself have all concurred in—viz., that the bridge hath but thirty-four arches, whereas it is very visible there are thirty-six sufficient arches. ***

[1794, *Part I., pp.* 430-432.]

My venerable predecessor, Mr. Erdeswick, has taken some pains, in his generally slight survey of Staffordshire, to prove that Burton Bridge (a noble fabric of thirty-six arches over the river Trent) was erected in the time of Bernard, Abbot of Burton, in the reign of Henry II., about 1175, in proof of which he has cited the following extracts from old deeds—viz., that "one William de la Warde, in the time of the above abbot, dedit terram Ponti de Burton reddendo 6 denarios annuatim sibi et heredibus suis inperpetuum," etc.

Also, "Rob. de Bursing Coate (now called Brislingcote) gave one acre of land in prato de Burscote juxta Trent pro fabricâ pontis de Burton." In the same opinion was the learned Dr. Plot, in his chapter upon Arts, towards the latter end of his "Natural History" of this county, p. 372. Yet, to call in question the authority of such antiquaries, I cannot help thinking, with an old and well-known correspondent, vol. xxi., p. 406, the contrary is evident from Mr. Erdeswicke's own citations.

Whence the above extracts were taken it is now difficult, if not impossible, to learn, as the writer unfortunately never thought proper to refer to his authorities. Nor do I find them amongst that large collection of curious charters, etc., belonging to the Earl of Uxbridge, though the copies of two other deeds upon the same subject are now before me in an excellent register from the same noble archives, in which most of the evidences belonging to Burton Abbey are beautifully preserved. In these it appears that the above Abbot Bernard granted to John de Beriscote and his heirs, amongst other lands of Beriscote, etc., "pratum suum de subponte Burton." Also that William de la Warde released to the said abbot and convent

"columpniam suam quam habuit in crofta videlicet pontis solutam & quietam a se & heredibus suis ab omni calumpnia inperpetuum."

From these alone I think it is very evident that this bridge was then in being, and no doubt the former grants were for the repairs and not for the erection of it. But if it should be argued that Erdeswick was right in supposing "pro fabricâ pontis" signified the actual erection of the bridge at that time, I can produce other instances where the same word is used, exactly in the same sense, to fabrics undoubtedly existing at the time they were written. Two are from charters in the old register before quoted in the time of Geoffrey, Abbot of Burton (about 1130, 30 Henry I., forty-five years before the date of Erdeswick's citation), wherein it is agreed, amongst other services, that the tenant "quando necessitas exiget, debet prestare quadrigas suas & hominum suorum sicut ceteri homines de Abbacia ad afferendam de luco materiem in fabricam monasterii." The third is in a cause between Roger de Ridware, plaintiff, and the prior and monks of Dudley, defendants, respecting the advowson of Seile Church, co. Leicester, which concludes that the said covenant be faithfully observed, etc., "sub pena centum solidorum fabricæ ecclesiæ Lychfeldiæ sine causæ cognitione solvendorum a qua parte commissa fuerit."* The date of this is 1275 (3 Edward I.), exactly a century after that of Erdeswick's, and seventy-three years after the rebuilding of Lichfield Cathedral by Bishop Clinton. Hence I think it plainly appears that these expressions arose only from the tautological and quaint Latinity of the writers of those times.

Having proved so far the antiquity of this bridge, I shall now produce other evidence to show that it was probably built some time before the Conquest, and coeval at least with the foundation of the abbey. For I have now before me the original charter of King Ethelred, dated 1004, wherein he grants the liberties, etc., to the monastery of Byrtun, which his servant Wulfric built and founded—in which it is strictly forbidden that anyone should destroy, or in the least injure or diminish it, "tribus tantummodo exceptis expedicione scilicet arcis pontisve constructione."

The like exception I also find in the middle of another curious charter, dated 1008, in which the same king gives the town of Rolvestune, or Rolleston, to the first Abbot Wulfget, in exchange for two other distant villages, but in this the word "pontis" stands before "arcis."

Likewise in another, dated 1012, wherein the said King Ethelred sells to the above abbot a parcel of land called Withmere for £70, which is wrongly printed £60 in the "Monasticon." This is a small hamlet, now called Witemoor, in the parish of Burton, situated

* From a curious old Chartulary in the possession of the Rev. William Gresley; to whom I am also obliged for very liberal access to his excellent collection of other original charters.

in the meadows about half a mile below the bridge, and continued the principal grange for supplying the abbey with poultry, eggs, butter, and other provisions, till the Dissolution, of which I have several remarkable grants and other curious particulars.

The last and most ancient piece of evidence upon the subject is an original charter, dated 956, from King Eadwig, or Edwy, to his servant of the same name, of the village of Brantestun, or Branston, as it is now called, in the said parish of Burton, which land, with the appurtenances, he was to have free, "excepto istis tribus expeditione pontis arcisve instructione."

Now, if the word "pontis" in all these cases relates to Burton Bridge (which I apprehend it does, there being no other bridge in this vicinity so probable, except that which is called Monks Bridge, near Egginton, the great pass between this county and that of Derby over the Dove, and this was built by John Stratford de Stretton, Prior of Burton, so late as 1255, as appears by an inquisition for the repairing of the said bridge taken the year following, viz., 40 Henry III., as printed in Gale's "Annals of Burton," p. 364), let me also ask what particular tower or castle the word "arcis" alludes to. Doubtless that of Burton. For that there was such a fabric in or about this place both the learned Camden and his editors all agree, and that it belonged to Henry de Ferrers, who had his principal seat at Tutbury from the Conquest.

And here, again, I must call in question the authority of my predecessor, Mr. Erdeswick, who, under his account of Tutbury, says (from the words of Domesday) that Henry Ferrers, coming in with the Conqueror, 20th of his reign, held in Burton half a hyde of land "in qua sedet castellum ejus." "So that by this record it would seem that Tutbury was then reputed to be a member of Burton. For I cannot perceive any other likely place near Burton where the ruins of any such castle appear, and, besides, Tutbury being within three (almost five measured) miles of Burton is not once named in the record. So that surely by this half hyde, which is said to be in Burton, the town, priory, and castle of Tutbury are meant."

However plausible this reasoning may appear at first sight, I now am fully of opinion that the whole is erroneous: First, because I find the assertion false respecting the entire omission of Tutbury in Domesday record, for in no less than four excellent copies now in my possession it is thus written: "Henricus de Ferieres habet Castellum de Toteberie. In Burgo circa Castellum sunt 42 homines de mercato suo tantummodo viventes, et reddunt cum foro 4 libras et 10 solidos." And, besides the words above quoted respecting Burton, the record thus continues: "In quâ tempore Regis Edwardi erant 12 carucatæ, ibi sunt modo 4 carucatæ in dominio, valet per annum 24 solidos."

These passages being quite familiar in comparison of some parts of Domesday, I thought it better to give the original, with the

abbreviations expanded, than a translation. And I trust many of your readers will agree with me that they must relate to two distinct places and castles. It is unaccountable, if Mr. Erdeswick really consulted the above record, how he could copy the one without seeing the other, as they immediately followed each other. It is true, he observes rightly, that there are no traces of any such castle in or near the town of Burton; but it does not therefore absolutely follow there was none. Indeed, I think the contrary clearly appears in the above ancient evidence. But where we are now to search for it is not quite so obvious, unless it be on the summit of that bold and beautiful hill on the other side the river, just opposite the small remains of the abbey, or manor house, as it is at present denominated. This fine eminence, now crowned with various young foliage, is vulgarly called Scopley, or Scalkley, but in old writings very properly Scalleclif, from its resemblance to that idea. And, in an old covenant, made about 1240, between Laurence, Abbot of Burton, and John, the son of Ralph de Stapenhill, it is thus recorded: "Scilicet quod prefatus Johannes dedit in escambium prefatis Abbati & Conventui unam culturam quæ dicitur la Levcroft, quæ scilicet jacet inter la Port Weye sub Scalleclif & inter Trente, cum omnibus pertinentiis."

This hill I have often considered, both from its excellent commanding situation and peculiar appearance, as the probable site of a lesser fort or place of defence to the religious and the town beneath; and it therefore might be dependent upon the great castle at Tutbury. Be this as it may, my ideas respecting a secondary fort have received additional strength from that expression in the last-discovered deed, viz., "la Port Weye," which might either mean the way leading to the gate or entrance of that citadel or be a mistranscript for "la Fort Weye."

Lastly, in an indenture, 15 Henry VI., from Sir Thomas Gresley, Knight, and John Gresley, Knight, his son and heir, to Ralph Henley, Abbot of Burton, respecting an aqueduct at Stapenhill, in which I find the following passage: "Ita quod ortus sive exitus aquæ quæ provenit ex fonte predictorum Abbatis & Conventus in Walle-crofte subtus le Bury in Stapunhull." The etymon of Bury is from the Saxon "burg," generally signifying a corporate town, or large village, but more anciently a castle, in which sense it is still in use to a very conspicuous and familiar eminence near Stone (in the northern part of Staffordshire), viz., Berry Bank, which was the fortified seat of Wifer, King of Mercia. And, as Scalecliff is situated in Stapenhill, I conclude that must be the Bury, or Castle Hill, mentioned in the above deed. But I shall take an early opportunity of investigating it more attentively, and in the meantime shall be happy to receive any information upon the above conjectures from correspondents more learned than S. Shaw, Jun.

Cannock Wood.

[1784, *Part II.*, *p.* 671.]

The enclosed drawing (see Plate, Fig. 1) was taken from an ancient piece of sculpture in ivory, found not long since in Cannock Wood, in the county of Stafford, and now in my possession; it is three-quarters of an inch in thickness, and carved on each side.

On one side there seems to be a representation of the Nativity; on the other, the Virgin Mary, crowned by angels, and giving suck to the infant Jesus. The kneeling figure, I apprehend, is intended for one of the wise men offering gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The figures are mutilated, as you may perceive by the drawing; the size corresponds with the sculpture, and the ornaments are exactly represented. R. GREENE.

Cauldon.

[1794, *Part II.*, *p.* 712.]

Cauldon is a small village situated on the left side of the turnpike road leading from Ashbourne to Leek. The church, which is pleasantly situated on a hill, consists of a nave, wherein is one aisle, lately rebuilt of stone, and an ancient chancel, separated from it by a low arch. The contrast between them hath a pretty effect. The body of the church, which is neatly seated and paved, is in length about 9 yards, its breadth 6 yards 1 foot. At the west end is a neat gallery, under which a door opens into a small square tower, wherein hangs a single bell. The chancel is from east to west about 6 yards 1 foot, and the contrary way it extends 5 yards. From a flat stone near the communion-rails I noticed that there was a brass plate missing. In the churchyard, relatively speaking large, on different upright stones, may be read the following inscriptions—on one stone:

"Here lieth MARGARET MANIFOLD, aged seven times seven years old. So was GEORGE KENT, her own dear father, lying in one grave together, July 31st, 1750."

On another:

"Here lie the remains of the Rev. Mr. THOMAS PRINCE, minister of this place, who died . . . the 15th, 1757, aged 74." . . .

Amidst a variety of other memorials to the former inhabitants of this village not worth transcribing, six more particularly engaged my attention by their recording that the several persons whose memory for a few years they may chance to preserve had all survived the rare period of threescore and ten years. MEDEVELDIENSIS.

[1794, *Part II.*, *p.* 890.]

Mr. Wheeldon, who resides in the village of Cauldon, is lord of the manor, and hath likewise in his gift the nomination of the minister, a perpetual curate. The most ancient register there now extant,

beginning in 1579, is in the earliest part much defaced, so as to be nearly illegible. MEDEVELDIENSIS.

Cheadle.

[1832, *Part I., pp.* 414, 415.]

Cheadle, in Staffordshire, formerly the residence of the Bassets of Drayton, contains, according to the last census, a population of 4,119 souls. It is situated on the south side of a hill, whose summit is crowned with wood, lying between two rivers, the Tean and the Churnet, in the hundred of Totmanslow South.

The church of Cheadle stands on an eminence, partly artificial, and which must have been a work of extreme labour; perhaps it is fair to account for it on the supposition of the Anglo-Saxons taking the old sites of the Britons for their places of worship. The church is dedicated to St. Giles; and the advowson is vested in the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge. It is an old and elegant fabric. The interior roof, consisting of massive wooden arches, embellished with many hideously-carved heads, is very curious. There are two galleries, besides an organ-loft at the west end, of modern erection, sustained on light columns. On the centre panel is inscribed the name of the donor.

The monuments, though not numerous, are some of them curious. In the middle aisle is an inscription, or rather a fragment of one, on a marble slab, in which the letter N occurs three several times, with its cross-stroke exactly horizontal, as was usual in the sixth century; to suppose its date so far back as that time being quite preposterous, how shall we account for it? There is no one word distinguishable, but the letter N is most clearly defined.

In sinking to a considerable depth a short time since in the churchyard, several pieces of pottery were dug out, one of which I shall briefly describe. It is a piece of Samian ware, a part of some circular vessel. Mr. Keys, the possessor, who has collected many patterns for more than forty years, seems never to have had anything similar. It is all in relievo, and of considerable size. It has a foliated border of perhaps fifty leaves, ziz-zag over and under; a lion and a wild boar, both in salient position combating; but I shall have occasion to describe this further in another letter, in order to illustrate a remarkable circumstance connected with the manufactures of the Romanized Britons, when I shall also advert to the revival of some antique patterns by Mr. Wedgwood.

At Rockcliffe, situated on the side of a hill or bank called Deezy, is a well, to which many remarkable properties have been ascribed. It possesses no mineral impregnation, but is famed for the cure of many disorders, and was formerly resorted to by the superstitious for the prognostication of future events by the appearance of bubbles produced on its surface on the dropping therein of stones or metals.

This mode of divining was peculiar to the Greeks. The Castalian fountain, amongst others, was supposed to be of this nature; the art was termed hydromancy. On this well was formerly a very curious and long inscription; but, the stones being removed for building some time since, nothing but the tradition now remains.

It is worthy of remark that here, as well as at High Shute, a hill about a mile distant, the sand is clearly passing into the state of compact rock. Few more interesting instances of a recent formation can be found than this described above. The fact of the same thing taking place on the coast of Cornwall has some time since been established by Dr. Paris in the first volume of the "Transactions of the Cornwall Geological Society." This circumstance occurring in a Midland county entirely sets at rest, if it has not been already sufficiently disproved, the theory of Dr. Borlase in his "History of Cornwall," where the change of sand into rock is attributed to the "agglutinating quality of sea-water"! I am inclined to think that instances of this species of transition are not so rare as geologists seem to suppose. I believe also that the same process is going on in the sand rocks adjoining the villa of Captain Sneyd at Huntley in this neighbourhood.

A quantity of arrow-heads were found on June 21 last, near the surface of the ground, in a field adjoining Hales Hall, one mile from Cheadle, which, though occasioning various surmises at the time, perhaps hardly merit a place here. It is, however, at all events clear that a Roman station once existed within a quarter of a mile of the present site of Cheadle, an encampment being discernible on the left side of the way, between Cheadle and Draycott, which seems to have been used in later years as a bowling-green, and which circumstance gave rise to the discovery of many relics of more or less importance when the ground was levelled for that purpose, Two pieces of urns, similar to what have been commonly found elsewhere, were at first carefully preserved, but afterwards destroyed by their original owner. It is not improbable that this spot was once used for interment, though no perfect skeleton has been found. Before the seventh century it was unlawful, Strutt says ("Anglo-Saxon Æra," vol. i., p. 69), to bury the dead in the cities, and there were no churchyards.

E. J. Mansell.

Codsall and Brewood.

[1797, *Part I., p.* 17.]

I have sent you drawings of Codsall and Brewood churches in Staffordshire.

Codsall is a considerable village situated on a hill five miles north-west of Wolverhampton; the church stands at the north end of the village, and has evident marks of great antiquity. The building contains nothing remarkable, but its pleasant situation, from which there

is an agreeable prospect of Chillington Park, and the adjacent country for many miles.

Brewood is a small market-town in Staffordshire, situated on a gentle eminence seven miles from Wolverhampton. The church is a large, handsome structure, with a lofty spire, but does not appear very ancient. The situation of this town (or rather village) is rural, pleasant, and retired, and is a proper place of retreat from the bustle of large towns. The parish of Brewood is very extensive, and contains Chillington Park, the seat of Thomas Giffard, Esq., and Somerford, the seat of the Hon. Edward Monckton, member for Stafford. In several hamlets in this parish considerable quantities of locks and other articles are made, but most of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture.

Cotton Hall.

[1830, *Part II., p* 296.]

Feeling confident that everything connected with Isaac Walton must be interesting, I have taken the liberty of sending you for insertion the copy of an inscription from a tombstone erected to the memory of an old and faithful servant of that celebrated angler. The memory of David Hookham has been handed down amongst the villagers in the neighbourhood of Cotton Hall, and many marvellous tales are related of him with the usual embellishments. David died before his master, and the following is his epitaph, with the initials "I. W." at the bottom; it is presumed, therefore, to be the production of the ancient angler. SPECTATOR.

"Sacred to the memory of David Hookham, who died A.D. 1647, aged 63 years." . . .

[Verses omitted.]

Dunstall.

[1794, *Part II., p.* 804.]

Dunstall, in Wolverhampton parish, was anciently a member of the king's manor at Wolverhampton, called Stow Heath. Though now only inhabited by a farmer, it is a curious old moated house, built at different times. In front is a lofty, square porter's lodge of brick and stone, variously ornamented. Over the entrance, between the two lower Elizabethan windows, is painted a female figure, representing, I suppose, Truth, by the following motto underneath:

"VIGET VIRET VINCIT VERITAS."

Between the two upper windows a shield with a horse's head embossed on a wreath, argent and sable, underneath which is inscribed:

"VITA PERIIT
MORTIS GLOR
NON MORITUS."

Under one of the windows on the east side is another shield, charged with arms of Wightwick, impaling —— On the south side are the faint remains of a large emblematical painting, said to have represented the seven deadly sins. S. Shaw, Jun.

Eccleshall.

[1786, *Part I., p.* 215.]

The reverend and learned author of the twenty-first number of the "Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica" has made a mistake in asserting that no account is extant of the siege of Eccleshall Castle in the reign of Charles I. A very full and satisfactory relation of the taking of this place is to be found in Vicars's "Parliamentary Chronicle," part ii., pp. 411, 412, a book which ought to be consulted by every one who wishes to be informed of the minute transactions which happened in the civil wars. . . . Your editor has shown a proper respect to Vicars's work, by inserting his account of the defence of Caldecote Hall in your magazine for April last, and I trust the same attention will be given to the following particulars, which are transcribed by the same hand:

"Upon Wednesday, August 30, 1643, being the fast-day of that moneth, and therefore, as in many of our former victories, so much the more memorable, the brave and strong castle, called Ecclesall castle, was taken by Stafford souldiers: and thus in brief it was:

"Great preparations were made by the Lord Capel, Colonell Hastings, Baggott, and others, to relieve the castle, the old bishop being dead, and his corps unburied, his wife, the Lady Woolsley and others being also at that time in it, and plate and other goods of divers persons of great value were then in it. This castle had been besieged about eight weeks, but then the King's forces came to Ecclesall, and ere they went did relieve the castle, and had little opposition therein, though Stafford-men had notice thereof time enough to have prevented it. But whiles the King's forces were at the castle, Captain Bowyer and Captain Snow, with Captain Mason and their souldiers (who kept Ecclesall church, and were then in it), saw some of Stafford horse, commanded by that brave gentleman Colonel Leigh, approach near the town, they in the church (thereupon) gave a great shout; and then instantly some of our dragooners alighted off from their horses, and set upon the King's partie, at Ecclesall townes-end, and Captain Bowyer presently sallied out of the church; whereupon all in the castle, and all the King's partie in the town, cryed out, Horse, horse, and presently fled away in such haste and distraction, that they left only one captain and but ten men in the castle, and at the castle gate had left the bishop's dead corps, and a trunck of plate, which they had brought out to have carried away with them. Hereupon ours seized on all they left behinde, which was a great deal of treasure and plate, and (as was

toucht before) store of goods of great value, and worth (as was conceived) many thousand pounds. Now after the King's forces were gone, the castle was shut up fast again; but our men who lay in the church, took one of the enemies prisoner that came last out of the castle, who confessed upon examination, that there were but ten men left in the castle. Whereupon that next night, our men set upon the castle, and Captain Snow entered the first gatehouse, and possest the drawbridge; and then he and the captain in the castle entring into a short parlie, the castle was soon delivered up upon free quarter; and so the very strong and almost impregnable castle, and a place of great consequence in these parts, was by the good providence of God taken by ours, with little difficultie, and as little effusion of bloud; which indeed is the highly commendable way of ours, where with any conveniency and possibilitie it may be effected." B. R.

[1807, *Part I., p.* 78.]

Early in the morning the heavy Chester coach stopped at the house of T. Bagnall, at Eccleshall, in Staffordshire, horse-keeper to the coach. The people perceiving neither coachman nor outside passengers, but those in the inside fast asleep, a search was immediately undertaken; when it appeared that the coachman had fallen from his box at Sughill, a distance of three miles from Eccleshall, and that the horses had instinctively drawn the coach to the door of the horse-keeper's, which is about eighty yards from the inn. The coachman was found, quite dead, in the highway, in his usual position of driving, and was neither bruised, nor apparently otherwise injured. He is supposed to have died suddenly on the box.

Ecton Hill.

[1769, *pp.* 59-62.]

Ecton Hill, that part of it in which the mine is situated, is of a conical figure; its perpendicular height, next the River Dove, which runs close by, is about 700 feet; its diameter from the same, quite through, about half a mile; the upper strata, or mould, is about fifteen inches thick, and produces exceeding fine herbage for sheep and other cattle, who constantly graze on the top and sides; and where the declivity will permit the plough, very fine wheat, barley, and oats are produced in great plenty.

This copper-mine was discovered about thirty years ago, by a Cornish miner, who, in passing over the hill, accidentally picked up a bit of ore annexed to some fine spar, which that metal usually adheres to. On viewing the situation, and considering the great height of the hill, he concluded that vast quantities of copper-ore might be found there; and if that should be the case no place could be more convenient for working it; and therefore he communicated his

sentiments and discoveries to some adventurers at Ashbourn, who, approving the project, applied to the then Duke of Devonshire (grandfather to his present grace) for a lease to search for copper on that hill. It appears by the most authentic accounts, that more than £13,000 were expended before any returns were made, and several of the original adventurers, despairing of success, sold out their shares at a considerable loss. But the second adventurers were more fortunate. After sinking a shaft of about 200 yards deep, and driving in an adit, immense quantities of copper ore were found, which continued to increase the lower they descended, till the termination of the lease, by which very considerable fortunes were acquired.

About six months before the decease of the late duke (father to his present grace) the lease expired, and the whole undertaking fell into his grace's hands, and has ever since continued working to great advantage.

To take a view of this stupendous copper-mine, you must enter at an adit at the base of the hill by the river Dove, and proceed about 400 yards, almost in a direct line. At your entrance, for about sixty yards, 'tis four feet and a half high, walled up on each side with good stone masonry; but afterwards it varies in its height, and rises in some places to six feet. When you arrive at the centre, there is a spacious lodgment of timber, for landing and receiving the ore from below, which is drawn up by a man at a winch, who generally works naked, and is put into four-wheel waggons that will hold about a ton and a half each. These waggons have cast brass wheels, and are run in grooves through the adit, by boys from twelve to fourteen years of age, with great facility.

When on the lodgment, you behold a large hollow over your head, at least 250 yards high, by the sides of which there is a passage to the summit, but dangerous to attempt, as the timber-works seem in a decayed state.

Thus far into the mountain, with the aid of lights, 'tis easy enough of access. The late Duke of Devonshire ventured to this platform, took a cursory view of the works, gave the miners ten guineas to drink, but returned immediately, not choosing to descend below. Indeed, such a horrid gloom, such rattling of waggons, noise of workmen boring of rocks under your feet, such explosions in blasting, and such a dreadful gulf to descend, present a scene of terror that few people who are not versed in mining care to pass through.

From the platform the descent is about 160 yards, through different lodgments, by ladders, lobs, and cross-pieces of timber let into the rock, to the place of action, where a new scene, ten thousand times more astonishing than that above, presents itself, a place as horrible to view as imagination can conceive. On the passage down, the constant blasting of the rocks ten times louder than the loudest

thunder, seems to roll and shake the whole body of the mountain. When at the bottom, strangers are obliged to take shelter in a niche cut in the rock, to avoid the effects of blasting the rocks, as the miners generally give a salute of half a dozen blasts in quick succession, by way of welcome to those diabolical mansions.

At the bottom of this amazing work, the monstrous cavern or vacuum above, the glimmering light of candles, and nasty suffocating smell of sulphur and gunpowder, all conspire to increase your surprise and heighten your apprehensions.

This singular mine, in its position, situation, and inclination, is different from any yet discovered in Europe, Asia, Africa, or America. The wonderful mass of copper-ore with which the mountain is impregnated runs not in regular veins or courses, but sinks perpendicular down, widening and swelling out at the bottom, in form like a bell.

Suppose yourself now upwards of 200 fathoms deep in the bowels of a large mountain, in a great hollow of immense diameter; then suppose around you an impenetrable wall of lime-stone rock, interspersed with small veins of copper-ore, yellow, black, and some brown, intermixed with spar, marcasite, mundic, and other sulphureous compositions of all colours; and at the same time figure to yourself the sooty complexions of the miners, their labour, and miserable way of living in those subterraneous regions, and you will then be apt to fancy yourself in another world. Yet these inhabitants, being trained up in darkness and slavery, are not perhaps less happy, or less contented, than those who possess the more flattering enjoyments of light and liberty. Hence the wisdom of Providence is conspicuous, which, as Pope says, has placed happiness nowhere to be had, or everywhere.

There is no timber made use of, except for lodgments, or platforms, ladders, or steps set into the rocks, for ascending and descending into the mine; neither is there any quantity of water to retard the works, notwithstanding it is at least 150 yards below the bed of the river: four horses, six hours each at a common wem or engine, are sufficient to keep the mine clear.

The timber works about the mine are very ill-contrived and worse executed. In descending from the principal lodgment you pass thirty ladders, some half-broken, others not half staved; in some places by half-cut notches, or steps in the rock; in others you must almost slide on your breech, and often in imminent danger of tumbling topsy-turvy into the mine; nor are the shores which support the lodgment below in better condition.

Notwithstanding the great depth of this mine (which is the deepest in Great Britain), a little expense, judiciously applied, would render the approaches to the lowermost part easy to the miners; but however troublesome the descent may be, above sixty stout, well-made fellows work here night and day, six hours at a time, for one shilling

each man; and although the major part work naked (a pair of coarse canvas drawers excepted), they are as merry and jovial a set of mortals as ever inhabited such infernal abodes. So much for the internal parts; we now come to the methods of dressing, cleansing, and fitting the ore for sale.

The ore, as before observed, when conveyed out by the boys, is thrown together in a heap, and two men with large hammers or sledges are employed to break it into small pieces. This done, it is carried in small hand-barrows, by little boys, to a place under a shed, erected on purpose, to be picked and sorted, and is then laid by in different parcels—best, second, and worst; this operation is performed by little girls from eight to twelve years of age, who are surprisingly quick at the work, separating the various kinds with astonishing dexterity. From this place the ore is carried to another large and convenient shed, where about fifty women sit back to back, on benches, to buck or beat it with flat hammers, still keeping every particular sort separate from each other. The ore, now reduced to a small sand, is again removed to the buddles for washing, where an old experienced Cornishman has the superintendency of it, as a great deal of the finest ore would be lost if this operation is not properly performed. Here, then, it is curiously washed and cleansed, and afterwards exposed for sale in the open air, in various heaps, ticketed* according to the different qualities and quantities. When all is ready notice is given to the smelting-houses, whose proprietors or managers attend, and each bids what price he thinks proper (generally from £7 to £16 per ton), the highest bidder being the buyer; it is then fetched away at the buyer's expense. The refuse part of the ore, which is not fit for sale, is beat down small and carried to the smelting-house on the premises erected by his grace, and there run into a regulus, in large pigs or bars, and is then sold from £70 to £90 per ton. Upon the whole, nothing is left.

The great advantage to the country around arises from the number of hands employed, and the circulation of between £3,000 and £4,000 in cash annually, in a place poor and thinly inhabited before this mine was discovered, but now quite improved, and more than 300 men, women, and children employed winter and summer, who have proper overseers for every department, where everything goes on with the utmost harmony and cheerfulness.

The miners, as before hinted, work at twopence per hour, six hours at a time; women, by task, earn from fourpence to eightpence a day, and are paid by measure, according to the quantity of ore they can buck;† girls and boys from twopence to fourpence a day, some

* "Ticketing the ore," is taking a couple of handfuls off a heap of ore promiscuously, and putting them into canvas bags, by way of sample; then little labels are fixed to the bags, signifying the quality of each parcel.

† To "buck," or "buckworth the ore" is a technical term amongst miners for

more: thus there is a constant employment for both sexes, and all ages, from five to sixty years old. The carpenter's shop, the smith's forge, the cooperage, with the neat dwelling-houses of the superintendants, little kitchen-gardens and outhouses annexed, are all singular in their kind, and happily adapted to make life agreeable in that solitary place, which lies between two monstrous hills, separated at least two miles from any other inhabitants.

This copper mine, in the state above described, clears annually between £8,000 and £10,000, and if worked with that spirit which usually accompanies large returns, double that sum might be made of it; but his grace, it seems, is content that it employs all the labouring poor who present themselves for work from the neighbouring parishes.

On the opposite side of Ecton Hill is a lead mine, which is likely to turn out to great advantage, the veins of lead approaching very near to the copper, and they are driving in an adit parallel to the other. WILLIAM EFFORD.

Enville.

[1783, *Part I.*, *p.* 481.]

The stone from which the drawing of Fig. 1 was made was found in digging a grave in Enville (or Enfield) churchyard, in the county of Stafford. Its dimensions are 5 feet 6 inches long, 1 foot 6 inches wide at the top, and 1 foot wide at the bottom; it lay about 5 feet under the surface. The drawing was made in 1762. The stone was dug up a few years before.

Fairwell.

[1771, *p.* 59.]

In taking down to rebuild the church of Fairwell near Lichfield (which undoubtedly was formerly the chapel of the nunnery founded there by Roger de Clinton, Bishop of Lichfield anno 1142), there was discovered in the south wall, about 6 feet from the ground, three ranges of coarse earthen vessels of different sizes, and unglazed; the largest, I conceive, would contain about two quarts, the smaller sort about one quart. They lay on their sides in a similar direction, their mouths being placed towards the inner side of the church, which were stopped or covered over with a thin coat of plaister. They were for the most part broken by the workmen in taking down the wall, except three, of one of which, in my possession, I have made an exact drawing (see Plate). R. GREEN.

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beating or reducing the ore to a small sand. Sometimes when the ore is very rich, it is only broken into pieces about the bigness of a nutmeg; but poor ore is broken small, with flat hammers, or under stamping-mills erected on purpose, when there is a convenience of water.

Forton.

[1801, *Part I., pp.* 17, 18.]

Forton Church, near Newport, Shropshire, is built of stone; the nave is enlightened by thirteen windows—four on the north side, six on the south side, two at the eastern end, and one at the western—and consists of three aisles—two long ones running from west to east, and one at the bottom from south to north. It is divided into two compartments by a row of neat columns, supported on pedestals a yard and a half high, and is neatly pewed; at the west end of the nave stands an elegant marble font, the basin of which is of an elliptical form. The wainscot by the altar is somewhat singular, being a triangular pediment supported by two square fluted columns, and on the top of each column stands a buff-coloured urn. Within the rails of the altar on a stone on the floor is the following inscription, with a coat of arms at the top:

"Ric'us Skrymsher, Joi's Skrymsher, Arm: Fil: Tho'æ Mil: Nepos. Soteriæ Boscobeilianæ Dux & Auctor; Quippe qui, Iacobo Comiti Derbiæ, a Rebellibus fugienti, in Penderelli domo Latibulum prospexit; Darbeius idem et Regi ob: piè' XX° Aug. MDCCIV., æt: LXXXVI."

On the top of the first long aisle, near to the communion rails, is the following inscription:

"Here lyeth Richard Awnsham, Gent., who served the several lords of this mannor, as steward, more than forty years, with good abilities and approved fidelity. He gave in his life-time a silver flagon for the use of this altar; and at his death bequeathed one hundred pounds, the interest thereof for ever, to be employed in teaching poor children of this parish to read, and instructing them in the church catechism. He died the 15th of March, 1731, aged 64. He was the son of Richard, and grandson of Richard Awnsham, A.M., rector of Hopesay, in the county of Salop: from which he was ejected by the prevailing faction in 1644, for his active loyalty to king Charles the First, in whose army he attended as chaplain for two years. After a long imprisonment, he was restor'd in 1660. Charles Baldwyn, of Aqualate, Esq., as a mark of the friendship which he bore him, and an acknowledgement of his faithful service, ordered this inscription."

At the upper end of the second long aisle is a tomb, the sides of which are enriched with coats of arms, and nine small images of alabaster—five males and four females—in the attitude of kneeling, having their hands joined as in prayer. On the top of the tomb are two effigies of a man and woman as large as life, both of which lay in the attitude of holding up their hands to heaven. The figure of the man appears dressed in armour, with a sword by his side, having his head supported by an helmet; the figure of the woman appears dressed in a loose vest, having her head supported by an alabaster cushion. Over them is an entablature supported by four columns; between the entablature and the effigies are two coats of arms, and the following inscription in gilt letters on a black stone fixed in the wall:

"HERE LYETH Y^e^ BODY OF S^r^ THOMAS SKRYMSHER, KNIGHT, ONE OF HIS MA^ties^ IVSTICES OF PEACE AND QVORUM FOR THIS COVNTIE OF STAFFORD, LORD OF THIS MANNOR AND PATRON OF THIS CHVRCH, WHO DYED THE 13^th^ DAY OF IVLY, ANNO DOMINI 1633."

The whole of this tomb is enclosed by palisades.

At the west end of the nave is a strong well-built tower, whose angles are strengthened by buttresses, having a musical ring of five bells ; and at the east end is a good vestry-room, enlightened by one window.

The churchyard is surrounded by a wall built partly of brick and partly of stone, in which, at the west end of the church, on the southern side, stands a fine large yew-tree. WILLIAM SNAPE.

[1801, *Part I.*, *pp.* 126, 127.]

Mrs. Jane Hewitt and Mrs. Honor Danwell, two old maiden ladies, were lately buried in the same grave in Forton Churchyard, at the eastern end of the church close by the entrance. They were no relations by birth or family alliance, but became acquainted very early in youth. When they became possessed of their fortunes and settled in the world, they made the same dwelling their common home in the town of Newport, Salop, where they lived together in the strictest amity and friendship with each other, charitable to the poor, and much respected by the whole circle of their acquaintance between forty and fifty years. . . . About two miles distant from Newport in the parish of Forton stands Aqualate Hall, formerly the seat of Charles Baldwyn, Esq., a gentleman of great family and respectability, but whose adverse fortune obliged him to sell it and the estate, which was purchased a few years ago by Sir Thomas Fletcher, Bart. On this estate, near to the hall, there is a fine lake called Aqualate Meere, and on the further side of this lake is a hill known by the name of Anx or Anc's Hill.* It is believed that a battle has been fought near to this place, on account of arms being found and human bones having been dug out of the hill by some men who were making a saw-pit many years ago ; and about three or four years since some arms (sword-blades, etc.) were found very near the surface of the ground at a place called Oulton, a mile and a half distant from this hill. It has been said by some that a general of the Romans, by the name of Ancus Martius, fought a battle here, but this I give not the least degree of credit. By others it has been said that Oliver Cromwell had an engagement near to this spot, which latter appears more probable, as some bullets were found in those trees which grew on the hill, and were sawn by the above-mentioned men. . . .

Belonging to Aqualate estate is a farm called the Guild Farm, which was lately the property of John Coates, Esq., of Woodcote, near Newport. This is called by some of the country people the Guild of Monks' Farm. The derivation of the word, and the tradition of the country people, induces me to think that it once belonged to some abbey or priory. W. SNAPE.

* *Ante*, pp. 59, 60, *sub tit.*, Blore Heath.

[1801, *Part I., p.* 230.]

Forton was at the Conquest included in the manor of Mere or Mereton, which derives its name from the neighbouring large pool or lake that, according to Plot, p. 48, etc., covers 250 acres or more, and, according to still later measurement, is 1,848 yards in length by 672 yards in breadth (see "Gen. Hist. of Staff.," *ut sup.*, p. 90), and was denominated by the Romans Aqua lata, now Aqualate, on the West banks of which, commanding a rich and picturesque scene, well wooded to the south, etc., stands the present seat of the lord of the manor, first erected by Sir Thomas Skrymsher, Knight, whose monument is in part described by your above correspondent, who has omitted to blazon the arms of him and his wife Ann, daughter of Ralph Sneyd, of Bradwell and Keel, Esq., viz., Quarterly: 1 and 4 Gu. a lion rampant or, in a border vairy arg. and az. 2 and 3 az., a chevron between 3 butterflies or bees; impaling Sneyd, Argent, a scythe in pale, and fleur-de-lis, sable."

Gerard, their son and heir, had by his first wife, Catherine, daughter of Sir Edward Sandys, one son, named Edwyn, who, having no issue by either of his wives, the estate came to his two sisters. The elder was married, first to —— Acton, by whom he had one daughter, and after, to Sir Timothy Baldwyn, who in her right had the manor of Mere, after whose death it came to Charles Baldwyn, Esq.; and his son, Charles Baldwyn, Esq., enjoyed it at the time Mr. Loxdale wrote the very excellent accounts of this and many other parishes in the hundreds of Cuddleston, Pirehill, and Totmanslow, now in my possession.

Aqualate Hall, which was afterwards the much-improved seat of the Baldwyns (of which family is my learned and worthy friend, Charles Baldwyn, Esq., of King's Street, Manchester), was lately sold to the present owner, Sir Thomas Fletcher, Bart., of Newcastle-under-Line. S. Shaw, Jun.

Hanbury.

[1792, *Part II., pp.* 693, 694.]

Hanbury is a village situated a little to the north of Needwood Forest, upon an eminence that commands a bold view over the rich meadows upon the river Dove, to the moorlands and Peak Hills. It takes its name from this lofty situation, Hean signifying high in the old English. The parish is very extensive, has two chapels under the mother church, Marchington and Newborough, and contains several manors. The family who took their name from thence were lords of Handbury at an early period. In King Henry III.'s reign Henry de Handbury was lord, whose son Henry, leaving no male issue, Agnes, his daughter and heir, carried this manor to William Bowles, of Rushall. From that family it afterwards passed, with Rushall, to the Leighs; but of later ages a branch of the Villiers

family has been possessed of it, and the present owner, of that name, now lives in Ireland.

The manor of Coton, the seat of which is about a mile north-west from the church, has long been enjoyed by the family of Adderley. Charles Bowyer Adderley, Esq., of Hans Hall, in Warwickshire, is the present owner, but his brother Ralph now lives here. In this parish also is situated the manor of Faulde, of which Stephen Curzon was lord in 19 Edward I., whose son John, dying *s.p.*, his sister and heir, Agnes, carried it in marriage to Nicholas de Burton, ancestor of the famous Leicestershire historian. How it passed from his son, Cassibilan Burton, I have not yet learned; but it has lately been possessed by Mr. Crompton, of Derby, by purchase, I think, from Isaac Hawkins Browne, Esq., and since sold to Mr. Hunt, of this place.

The church of Hanbury is an ancient stone structure, standing almost on the very edge of the deep declivity to the Dove, a little east of the ground where once stood the nunnery, no remains of which are now visible. The parsonage-house, a view of which is here preserved with the church, has been recently taken down by the present vicar, the Rev. Hugh Bailye, who is going to erect a very excellent new one, a little to the west of the church, where, in digging of the foundation, I am in hopes will be found some curious relic of the nunnery, of which I may be able to communicate farther intelligence.

The living of Hanbury is a rectory, annexed to the see of Lichfield, and the bishop collates to the vicarage. In the church is a large collection of monuments and inscriptions, for the Villierses, the Adderleys, the Agards and the Egertons; and under an arch in the south wall is the figure of a cross-legged knight, cut in stone, for Sir John de Handbury, which was engraved by J. Mynde, for Dr. Huddesford, from a drawing in the Ashmolean Museum.*

The following inscription is upon a marginal brass plate, on a large flat stone at the entrance of the chancel, in black letter:

"... Dominus Johannes ... quondam Canonicus Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Lichefeld ac Rector istius Ecclesiæ ... Anno Domini Milesimo CCCC Octavo cujus animæ propitietur Deus."

The surname, now broken off, was probably Cheyne, a name well known in the records of Hanbury not only as the reviver of the "Cowcher," but as the strenuous defender of the rights of the living on several occasions. In the year 1391 Cheyne had been rector twenty-eight years.

In vain have I hitherto sought for any other memorial than what the common parish register† affords of William Burton, the

* Query, where is that plate now to be found?

† The oldest, which commences in 1574, is perhaps unique of its kind, being richly illuminated on the margin with blazonry of arms, and inscribed with several curious epitaphs not found in the church; but Burton died too late to be commemorated by this extraordinary pen.

historian and antiquary, who, besides his book of Leicestershire, left behind him some collections for this county, said afterwards to be in the hands of Mr. Chetwynd, of Ingestre.

I should be glad if any of your correspondents would inform me further of these collections, and also what became of Dr. Plott's papers at his death, and who were his executors, or whether any of his family are still living, and where. S. S.

[1792, *Part II., p.* 717.]

The site of the nunnery at Hanbury is on the east side of the church, and in Mr. Hunt's garden and gravel-pit below have frequently been dug up human bones. The manor of Faulde was purchased by Lord Mountjoy, time of Richard III. The Burton family possessed it afterwards, and of late years Hawkins Browne, Esq., by purchase, who sold it to —— Crompton, Esq., of Derby; and he has lately sold it to Mr. Hunt, of Castle Hay. The old half-timbered house in which the Leicestershire historian lived has not enough of the antique remaining to afford a proper picture for engraving, though, with the additional brick part built by him, together with its rural appendages, they form a pleasing group viewed from the opposite side of the river Dove.

When and by what means Coton manor passed from the ancient family of that name I do not find. But in Richard III.'s reign Lord Mountjoy above-mentioned possessed it by purchase, and in 1558 it was sold from that family to Ralph Adderley, Esq., whose descendants have since lived in the curious old half-timbered mansion in which Prince Rupert took shelter during the civil commotions, as appeared by his name left on the pane of a window. This old house was taken down a few years since, and an excellent modern one erected in its place by the present possessor of this and the splendid mansion of Hans Hall, in Warwickshire. R. Shaw.

Hanging Bridge.

[1796, *Part II., p.* 721.]

The view accompanying this (Plate I.) is taken from Hanging Bridge, two miles from Ashbourne, on the river Dove, which here divides Derby from Staffordshire. It is a beautiful little stream, abounding with a great variety of shores from the lawn to the precipice. The cottage on the hill, buried in trees and banks, and the distant cotton-mills, with the river and road, appeared to me so happily disposed that I could not resist drawing them. If they should please your readers on paper, I shall think myself repaid with interest. I cannot help recommending the whole neighbourhood of Ashbourne, as eminently calculated to afford delight to such persons

as are fond of the vicinity of a richly-cultivated country to rude and ragged mountains. J. P. MALCOLM.

Keel.

[1800, *Part II., pp.* 1153, 1154.]

Allow me to submit to Mr. Malone's investigation whether the picture of Dryden at Keel, in Staffordshire, may not be the same portrait which was in vain sought for at Chesterton about the time that estate was sold out of the Pigot family in 1777.* Both are ascribed to Kneller, but as the tradition at Keel makes the portrait there too early for that painter, till an exact description or copy can be procured of *this* picture, it is impossible to say whether it be the picture sought after, or a copy of it. R. G.

[1801, *Part I., p.* 28.]

Keel manor was parcel of Tutbury Castle 1 Edward III., and Keel house was ordered to be forthwith demolished by Captain Barbar's soldiers, February 29, 1643. Gilbert Rolleston, of Rolleston, married to his first wife, Jane, daughter of Ralph Sneyd, of Keel, Esq.

The principal branch of the family of the Sneyds have been seated there many generations, and the present possessor is Walter Sneyd, Esq., lieutenant-colonel of the Staffordshire militia. Their curious old mansion, built 1581, as engraved in Plot, Tab. 28, still remains, with few external alterations, and no doubt contains the portrait mentioned by R. G. S. SHAW.

[1811, *Part II., pp.* 306-309.]

The parish of Keel is small, containing not quite 3,000 acres; there are some mines of iron, stone and coal in the north and east part, both of which are gotten at a place called Silverdale, where is also a smelting furnace. The coal is now sold at 8s. 4d. per ton.

The manor is co-extensive with the parish. Though Keel is now an independent manor, it seems to have been formerly an appendage to Newcastle-under-Line, as appears from the following extract from the old record called Testa de Nevill, which also shows that it then belonged to the Knights Templars:

"Fr'es militie Templi tenent Kel, *membrum Novi-Castri*, de dono d'ni Reg. H. & nichil reddunt."

The parish church is in the village of Keel, and situate between two and three miles distant to the west from Newcastle-under-Line, on the public road from thence to Nantwich in Cheshire. It was rebuilt in 1790, and is a neat stone building of an oblong square figure, containing in the inside an area of about 55 feet by 34; a

* Malone's "Life of Dryden," p. 305.

tower is at the west end, in which are four bells, thus inscribed in old English capitals :

"All glory be to God. 1638. P.H."
"Ora pro nobis, Sancte Johannes Baptista."
"God save the King. 1647. R.S."
"God save his Church. R. Rovley, R. Reeve, Wardens. W. Sneyd, esq., T. Walthall, Vic. 1682."

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, though one would be induced to think, from one of the above inscriptions on the bells, that it was formerly dedicated to St. John the Baptist, unless that bell was purchased from some other parish. At the west end are two doors of entrance—one on each side, opposite to each other. That on the north side is seldom used.

The font stands within a niche in the middle of the west wall, and is an elliptical bason of white marble, about half a yard long and a foot in breadth ; it rests on a square pillar of the same marble, about a yard high.

Against the same wall is fixed a wooden screen, about seven yards long and extending to the ceiling in height ; it consists of two rows of fluted Corinthian pillars, one above the other, and each row supports an entablature ; the upper row contains only four pillars, which are larger than those below, and form three compartments, each of which contains a coat of arms carved in wood on shields of large size with supporters ; the middle coat is the royal arms, and those on the sides are the arms of the Sneyd family, the supporters to which are two cherubs cross-legged. The pillars forming the lower division of the screen are 3 feet 6 inches high, and 18 inches distant from each other ; they are twelve in number, and form ten compartments, five of which are on each side the niche wherein the font stands ; each of these lower compartments has in the bottom part a board, or half a panel, whereupon is painted a coat of arms. The arms of Sneyd and Dryden occupy alternately the ten compartments. Below the whole, on each side the font-niche, is a good oak seat with a panelled back. This seat contains four coffers, wherein different articles for the use of the church, etc., are preserved, and constitutes the bottom part of the screen.

The church contains forty-four good new oak pews, made in an uniform manner, and disposed in single rows on the sides, and in a double row in the middle.

The cloths, cushions, etc., that adorn the pulpit and altar are the needlework of the late Mrs. Barbara Sneyd, and remain an honourable testimony of that lady's piety. The ground of them is crimson worsted ; they are fringed with yellow silk, and ornamented with representations of the sun, with I.H.S. in the centre of each. They are also adorned with scrolls, and have appropriate sentences from Scripture wrought upon them in capital letters—viz., on the pulpit-

cloth, "Glory to God on high, and on earth peace"; on the communion-cloth, "This is My body which is given for you. This cup is the New Testament in My blood." The cushions have yellow silk tassels, and on those designed for kneeling upon are wrought the arms of Sneyd, impaling Bagot, with their motto, "Thank God for all."

The communion-plate is all of silver, and consists of an old chalice embossed, having the donor's arms engraved upon it, and is inscribed:

"D.D. Ecclesiæ Paro'li de Keel Gulielmus Sneyd, ar. ejusdem Ecclesiæ Patronus, Anno Dom. 1686."

A flagon, of a size to hold a bottle of wine, is inscribed:

"The gift of Ralph Sneyd, Esq., to the parish church of Keel, 1770."

And a small salver, about 6 inches in diameter, has the same inscription as the flagon.

Monuments.—Under the window, between the pulpit and altar, on marble stones fixed against the south wall, are the two following inscriptions in capital letters:

"Here lie y^e^ bodies of Edw. Brett, esq^r^., and Sisley his wife, one of the da. and heires of John Fitton, esq^r^., by who' he had issve, Ron., mar'ied to Margret, da. to Tho. Chetwi'd of Ingestry, esq^r^.; and Ellen, mar'ied to John Mitton, esq^r^.; the s^d^ Edw. was son and heire to Ron. Brett, who mar'ied Anne, da. and heire of Rob. Wood, of Keele; w^ch^ Edw. changed this life y^e^ 27 of Jan., 1593."

2. Adjoining the above:

"Here lieth the body of Lavrence Cranage, gent. He married Dame Agnes, late wife of S^r^ Richard Bvckley, of Beavmarris, knight, davghter of Thomas Nedeha'. of Shavingto'."

3. Under the altar window, on a similar stone on the east wall, in capital letters:

"Here lieth y^e^ bodies of William Sneide, sonn and heire apparant of Raphe Sneide of Brodwall and Keele, esq^r^.; and Clare his wife, davgh' of S^r^ Anthony Colclovgh, knt., who was married y^e^ 29 of Avgvst 1585, and lived together 29 yeares; and he died y^e^ 29 of Avgvst, 1613, his age 50 yeares, y^e^ said Raphe then living; and y^e^ said Clare died the . . . of . . . ."

4. A loose, plain marble stone is in one of the seats, and has not been fixed since the rebuilding of the church in 1790, at which time several slabs, etc., were necessarily displaced, and some removed, to preserve a uniformity of plan in the building; it is inscribed, in capital letters:

"Here in a vavlt lieth y^e^ bodie of Thomas Sneide, gentleman, third sone to Ralph Sneide, of Broadwall and Keele, esqvier; which Thomas died the 20 of April An^o^ 1615."

5. On another loose, plain stone are the following lines, which are only a part of an inscription. To whose memory they were written I am not able to state:

"Flere parentali, tva fata, Maria, qverelâ
Stat redimenda foret mors tva voce meâ:
Expirare animam pro te (svavissima conjvx)
Stat, redimenda foret mors tva morte meâ:
Sed neq. sic neq. sic cvm sis redimenda, qvid vltra
Veterivs dirâ morte perennat amor
Hoc marmor, charam, testetvr flebile charvm
Teq. fvisse mihi, meq. fvisse tibi.
Fra. C."

6. Against the east wall, between the two windows, is affixed a fine marble monument. The tablet, which bears the inscription, has on the top a coat of arms (Sneyd impaling Dryden) and the crest of Sneyd on a wreath. It is placed between two Corinthian fluted columns, which support a pediment; on the top of the pediment, in the middle, is an urn, and on each side a cherub resting his arm on a skeleton. Beneath the tablet, on the lower part of the monument, is fruit and flowers in festoon, below which, at the bottom of the whole, are two angels; by the side of each column which supports the pediment stands on the outside a cherub, each with his right hand uplifted towards the inscription, which is as follows:

"M. S. Radulphi Sneyd, de Keel, arm. et Franciscæ Uxoris ejus, filiæ d'ni Johannis Dryden de Ashby-Canonum, in agro Northamptoniensi, bart^{i}.: Quos diu in vitâ conjunctos, Mors demùm separavit; et sepultura pariter disjunxit. Ille situs est juxta hoc marmor, hæc in Ecclesiâ de Wolstanton, cum filiis quatuor charissimis. Ille non ex longo majorum sanguine, magis quàm summâ animi munificentiâ, et doctrinâ verè erat nobilis; tam morum et eloquii venustate insignis, quàm ingenii acumine et literatorum honore, in quovis scribendi genere facilis, brevis, conspicuus; cum valetudo per aliquot menses defecerat, penitùs resipiscens obijt Martii IX° Anno D'ni MDCCIII. ætatis suæ LXIV. Hæc quò forma et genere illustrior, eò erat animo et gestu humilior; maritum honorabat, familiam, liberos præcipuè fovebat; pauperes sublevabat; peregrinos omnes decore, proximos quosq. et vicinos humaniter excipiebat; ut neminem reperires decedentem non prius devinctum mirâ hujus et honestâ morum suavitate; inter negotia tamen ita non tota erat occupata, quin largam cujusq. diei partem religioni dicaret; adeòq. beatè, quamtumvis repentè commutavit vitam Dec. xxxi A°. MDCCXII.; annos ubi compleverat septuaginta, si solum addideris septimanam. Johannes Sneyd filius natu minimus hoc monumentum extruendum testamento statuit, et Radulphus Sneyd de Bishton hæres ejus conscriptus posuit."

7. On the same wall, near to the above, on a white marble tablet, above which are the arms of Sneyd impaling Bagot, is inscribed:

"To the memory of Ralph Sneyd, esq., and Barbara his wife (eldest daughter of S^{r}. W. W. Bagot, of Blithfield, bart.) by whom he had fourteen children, viz.: Walter, Ralph, Edward, William, John, Henry, George, Frances, Charlotte, Barbara, Ann, Elizabeth, Mary, Henrietta. He died December 11, 1793, aged 70 years. She died February 23, 1797, aged 71 years, by whose desire this monument is erected. They are both interred in the family vault at Wolstanton."

To the lower part of the walls round the altar are affixed several shields of arms sculptured on marble, which are the remains of some old tombs that stood formerly in the church. Before I attempt to blazon them I shall notice the arms on the above-mentioned screen and monuments, which are:

Sneyd's: Argent, a fleur-de-lis sable, and a scythe in bend sinister of the same. The scythe is now more frequently represented in pale. Crest: A lion passant guardant sable. Supporters, two cherubs cross-legged.

Dryden's: Azure, a globe between two estoiles or in chief; on a canton argent, a sinister hand couped at the wrist.

Bagot's: Ermine, two chevrons azure.

Some of the coats round the altar being imperfect, the following is the most accurate statement of them which I can send:

I. Quarterly, 1st Sneyd. 2nd is quarterly, 1st and 4th sable, 2nd and 3rd argent; each quarter is charged with a leopard's face counter-changed. 3. Argent, a cross of cross crosslets sable. 4. Or, three torteux, each charged with a fleur-de-lis of the first, on a chief azure, a bugle between two arrowheads argent. And a label Or, over the 1st and 2nd quarters.

II. The above (I.) impaling quarterly, 1st and 4th Argent, a cross of five eagles displayed sable; 2nd and 3rd, Gules, a fess argent between three martlets of the last.

III. The same as I.

IV. The same as the sinister side of the 2nd or that part described under II.

V. The same as IV.

VI. Six quarters, paly of three, parted per fess. 1. On a chevron 3 roundles. 2. A cross moline. 3. A chevron between 3 candlesticks. 4. A cross engrailed. 5. Three martlets. 6. On a chevron 3 roundles as the 1st. The whole impaling . . . a canton, a crescent on the sinister chief point. Over all (of the sinister side) on a bend 3 garbs.

VII. Paly of three parted per fess. 1. On a chevron 3 roundles. 2. A cross moline. 3. A chevron between 3 candlesticks. 4. A cross engrailed. 5. Three martlets. 6. . . . a canton, a crescent on the sinister chief point; over all (of this 6th quarter) on a bend 3 garbs. The whole impaling quarterly: 1. A chevron between 3 mullets. 2. Two chevrons. 3. On a cross engrailed 5 mullets. 4. Billety of ten (4, 3, 2, 1).

VIII. The dexter side is completely effaced. It impales the same as VII. (the cross engrailed, or 4th quarter of VII. on this coat is sable).

IX. On a chevron between 3 roundles 3 mullets. Crest: A cygnet with wings displayed issuing from a marquis's coronet.

X. On a chevron 3 roundles, impaling the 6th quarter of VII., or the sinister side of VI.

In pointing out the situation of the above particulars described in the church, it may be proper to notice that I have considered the chancel end as being due east, which is not quite correct, for the angles or corners of the building, particularly those of the tower,

coincide most with the cardinal points instead of the side walls, as is usual in most churches. W. S.

[1811, *Part II.*, *pp.* 410, 411.]

An account of the charitable gifts to the poor of Keel parish:

	£	s.	d.
A stranger (supposed to be Mr. T. Audley) left ...	20	0	0
*Mr. Abnett, of Audley, left twelve fourpenny loaves, to be given yearly, to twelve widows every Good Friday.			
Mr. John Heath, jun., left to be given in bread ...	5	0	0
Mr. John Heath, sen., ditto	5	0	0
*Madam Brett left twenty shillings a year, to be given in bread to the poor, on the nearest Sunday to the 19th of February.			
John Sneyd, Esq.	10	0	0
Madam Frances Sneyd left for a free school to instruct twelve children	100	0	0
Mrs. Mary Giles	5	0	0
Mrs. Ann Giles	100	0	0
Advanced by the parish	5	0	0
*Mr. Samuel Whitehurst gave twenty shilling a year to the poor, to be given in bread, as long as the estate called The Nabbs, in this parish, is free from a parish apprentice.			
Mr. Thomas Breck, gent., gives to the poor twenty shillings a year.			

All the above sums, except those to which a * is prefixed, are in the hands of one trustee, and the interest thereof is annually given to the poor, agreeable to the wills of the respective donors.

Those gifts marked with a * are charged upon certain lands.

Mr. John Sneyd, one of the above benefactors, was the youngest son of Ralph Sneyd, Esq., of Keel Hall, where he died March 22, 1711.

Madam Frances Sneyd was relict of Captain Sneyd, of Keel Hall; she died at Salop December 31, 1712.

They were both buried at Woolstanton.

Of the other deceased benefactors the following were buried at Keel, viz.:

Mr. Thos. Audley, gent., January 10, 1692; and his widow, Elizabeth, from Newcastle, November 13, 1698.

John Heath, jun., March 8, 1697.

John Heath, sen., December 2, 1708.

Madam Jane Brett, of Dimsdale, in the parish of Woolstanton, December 16, 1712; and her husband, Edward Brett, February 22, 1696.

Mary Giles, June 16, 1719.

Ann Giles, May 2, 1716.

Mr. Abnet was burried at Audley, and died September 24, 1628.

The parish register commences May 1, 1540.

For the first thirty years after the commencement of the register the average number of baptisms each year was seven, and of funerals three. For the same period from the commencement of the last century the average was seventeen baptisms and eleven funerals. The population in 1801 was 904; in 1811, 944. The living is a small curacy, situate in the deanery of Newcastle and Stone, archdeaconry of Stafford and diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, and which has been augmented by Queen Anne's bounty. The patron and impropriator is R. Sneyd, Esq., of Keel Hall.

The following is a list of the incumbents, according to the register:

Rob. Butterton, curate, was buried January 17, 1620.

1686. Thom. Walthall.

1696. Nath. Williams.

1724. H. Vernon.

1735. P. Walthall.

1739. Tho. Breck.

1763. John Breck.

1790. John Sneyd, the present incumbent, who is also curate of Capesthorn, in Cheshire, vicar of Bromshall, and rector of Elford, both in Staffordshire. He is brother to the patron, and of the same family as those whose monuments are recorded here and in my account of Woolstanton.

Keel Hall is situate about half a mile south-east of the church, and has been the residence of the Sneyd family for upwards of two centuries. It is built principally of red stone, and, according to Mr. Shaw, was erected in 1581. The south front underwent some alterations by the late Ralph Sneyd, Esq., but the upper part of the wings of that front retain much of the same figure and plan as that engraved in Plot's "History of Staffordshire." Over the entrance door, on the same side of the house, are two shields, the one containing the arms of Sneyd, the other Sneyd impaling Bagot; and there is affixed a lion passant guardant between them, the crest of the Sneyds.

The present proprietor and occupier is Walter Sneyd, Esq., late lieutenant-colonel of the local militia for Pirehill North, county Stafford, who has lately erected a new west front of the same kind of stone, which is embattled and adorned with four octagon embattled turrets. This front began to be erected in 1807, was completed about two or three years ago, and is a great addition to the convenience and ornament of that ancient mansion. W. S.

Leek.

[1780, *p.* 165.]

The enclosed drawings of antiquities in the church of Leek, at the south-east corner of the chancel (see woodcut), was communicated to me this summer by a gentleman who took it on the spot. . . . The pillar is upright and about 10 feet high from the ground above the steps; the steps are under the ground. The rude carving of a head appears on the south, north, and east sides of it. The other stone, which lies flat, about 3 feet behind the pillar, is 5 feet 6 inches long and 1 foot 8 inches wide. There are remains of a much more curious pillar in Wolverhampton Churchyard, about 20 feet high, as it was in the year 1735 said to have had a cross on it formerly, the whole now very ruinous. The Danes were supposed to have erected monumental pillars before their conversion to Christianity, which undoubtedly were without crosses, and might be so afterwards. Piratical adventurers like the Danes would be more likely to erect martial trophies to their heroes than the insignia of Christianity.

ARISTIDES.

[1780, *p.* 272.]

In your magazine for April is a representation, but not, as you are pleased to term it, "a faithful one," of the south side of a pillar in the churchyard at Leek. Whoever drew it is a bad draughtsman and a superficial observer; both his drawings and assertions are false. "The rude carving" on the south and north sides is not a head, but a kind of knot with a scroll over and pendant on each side of it; that on the east side is a heart with the same kind of scroll; and on the west side is a circular ornament, perhaps a Katharine wheel, or more likely the setting sun, but now too much defaced by time to determine what it is. To be brief on the subject, no part of the pillar is faithfully represented; the figure of the gravestone, though rather a more exact copy of the original, is far short of what it ought to be.

CONSANGUINEUS.

[1812, *Part I.*, *p.* 438.]

The Abbey of Dieulacres, near Leek, in Staffordshire, according to Camden and Tanner, was founded by Randolph, Earl of Chester, for Cistercian monks in 1214, and was possessed by the ancient family of Rhudyard from the Dissolution till the early part of the last century.

AN OLD CUSTOMER.

[1819, *Part I.*, *pp.* 120-122.]

In the spring of last year a very interesting discovery was made at Dieulacres Abbey, near Leek. This abbey, according to Camden, "was founded for Cistercians, in the year 1214, by Randolph the third, surnamed De Blundeville, Earl of Chester, who translated the

monks of Pulton in Cheshire hither, by order, it is said, of the ghost of his grandfather. Upon relating the vision to his wife, she said, 'Dieu l'encres!' (God increase it), which became the name of the place, now corrupted to Dieulacres: it was valued at £227 5s. per annum." Previous to last March very few traces of the edifice could be seen, but at that time as some labourers were digging for stone they came to the base of a pillar; this circumstance was the cause of the adjoining land being excavated, in consequence of which other pillars and foundations of walls were discovered. At this period no doubt a ground-plan of the building might easily have been taken, which is not now practicable, as many of the foundations have been pulled up to furnish materials for a range of cow-houses, stables, etc., that have been erected on the site of the abbey. The only part that can be ascertained with any degree of correctness is the church, where are the remains of seven clustered columns, one of which is 9 feet high, and two others about 6 or 7 feet (so that during the last three centuries the adjacent ground must have accumulated to the height of 12 or 13 feet); near one of these, on the south side, are the fragments of an arch; to the west, and in a line with this, the bases of two more columns were discovered at regular distances; and to the west of the opposite column, on the north side, parts of three others, all of which were destroyed for the purpose I before mentioned. From this and from an admeasurement of the ruins, the church seems to have consisted of five intercolumniations of 22 feet each; the greater diameter of the columns is 12 feet; thus the whole length of the fabric would be about 160 feet, the breadth of the body and side aisles is 63 feet, and of the choir or chancel (where there is a wall in the intercolumniations to divide it from the side aisles) 29 feet. The church does not seem to have had any transepts, at least, no traces of such are to be seen. On the south side the foundations of several offices of the monastery may be discerned.

Over the doors and windows of the new building (which are pointed) are inserted a variety of sculptured stones that were found amongst the ruins; two of these are bosses or orbs of the groining (in all probability) of the church, one represents the lamb and cross, very skilfully executed, the other two fanciful animals; there is likewise a corbel head, all of them very perfect.

On the north side of the chancel there is a stone coffin, near which lay a human skeleton, and at no great distance a gravestone (now inserted in the new building), on which are a cross and sword, the ensigns of a temporal abbot. A variety of other things were also found, as part of a wooden comb, a key, etc., some floor tiles, and many pieces of painted and stained glass, consisting chiefly of different ornaments; these are in the possession of Mrs. Cruso, of Leek. The tiles are painted with what potters call slips,* and are

* See Dr. Plot's "History of Staffordshire," ch. iii., secs. 23-29.

glazed apparently with lead ore; on one of them is depicted a fish, on another a stag, on a third two dogs, etc., being curious specimens of the arts of those days. On the premises is an old house of the Elizabethan age, the materials for building which were probably obtained from the abbey.

Most of the fragments that remain of this once beautiful edifice are of the second order of the Pointed style of architecture,* such as the clustered columns (the clusters or shafts being formed out of the same stone), the orbs of the groining, etc., which order existed from the latter end of the thirteenth century to the middle of the fifteenth century;† consequently this abbey must have been rebuilt (having perhaps been destroyed by fire) sometime during that period. This event probably took place towards the beginning of the fourteenth century, about a hundred years after its first erection. A further proof of its having been rebuilt is the circumstance of many sculptured stones having been found in the middle of one of the walls that were pulled down, one of which was the intersecting of two ribs without a boss, a distinguished mark of the first order which prevailed in 1214,‡ the year that Camden says the Abbey was founded.

J. A. BLACKWELL.

[1849, *Part I., p.* 196.]

On December 19 the church of St. Luke's, Leek, was consecrated by the Bishop of the diocese. It was built by voluntary contributions, amounting to about £4,000, aided by grants from the incorporated Society for Building Churches, etc., from the Lichfield Diocesan Church Building Society, from Sir R. Peel's fund, and the purchase money of a piece of land left by the late Mrs. Brentnall. The beauty of the building, as well as the interior arrangements, were the theme of general admiration. It is of pure Gothic architecture, designed by Mr. Francis, of London.

Lichfield.

[1759, *p.* 4.]

On October 10 last, as some workmen were removing the soil near the north door of the great cross aisle of our cathedral church, at the depth of a little more than 3 feet, they discovered a tombstone of an uncommon size, being near 15 inches thick, upon which is rudely engraved a Calvary cross, having a falchion on the dexter side, with its pummel erect. Upon displacing the stone (though not exactly underneath it), a coffin, of a different kind of stone, with a lid cemented with mortar, was discoverable, and placed due east and

* For a description of the three orders of the Pointed style of Architecture, improperly termed Gothic, see Dr. Milner's "Treatise on the Ecclesiastical Architecture of England during the Middle Ages. 1811."

† *Ibid.* ‡ *Ibid.*

west. Within the coffin was to be seen the remains of a human skeleton: the skull, the leg and thigh bones, and the vertebræ of the back, were pretty entire, but the rest were mouldered into dust. The skull reclined towards the right shoulder, the arms were across, but every part was disunited.

As the basis of the cross (see the cut) is different from most I have seen, I should be glad to hear the sentiments of some of your correspondents upon that head, as well as to be informed whether the falchion does not denote the deceased to have been a warrior.

As our dean and chapter have lately removed a building which obstructed a near approach to the north side of the cathedral and foreshortened the prospect, and are now levelling the ground and laying it out in a more commodious manner, I am in hopes that something more of this sort may be discovered. If this should happen to be the case, you may expect to hear again from,

RICHARD GREEN.

[1759, *pp.* 65-68.]

Although I can say but little, I fear, to your satisfaction, on the points you propose for discussion, to wit, the figure of the cross upon that ancient tombstone, etc., yet I am always very desirous of giving you every testimony of my regard. . . .

A question may be started whether the tombstone and the stone coffin belong to one and the same person, since the coffin did not lie *exactly* under the stone. But I think we may acquiesce in the affirmative, as they are things perfectly consistent one with another, and that a small displacing of the tombstone might happen from various causes. . . .

It appears to me, from the great number of stone coffins* found in this kingdom, that formerly all persons of rank and dignity, of fortune and fashion, were buried in that manner.

The "sarcophagus," which is a Greek word, but adopted by the Latin, and signifies a coffin or a grave, has its name from a certain property which the stone is said to have had of consuming the dead body in a few days;† but without visiting the ancient Greeks and Romans I shall show, which is more to the purpose, that this was the custom amongst our Saxon ancestors. The number of the coffins found is in itself no inconsiderable proof of it; but there is a clear instance in "Venerable Bede," who, speaking of Queen Ædylthryd, or St. Awdry, that died of the pestilence in the year 669, says, she was buried, by her express command, by or near the other persons of the

* At Chesterfield and Dronfield, in Derbyshire; at Notgrove, in Gloucestershire. See also Thoroton's "Antiq. of Nottinghamshire," p. 456; Camden's "Britannia," pp. 508, 588, 725; Dugdale's "Monasticon," tom. ii., p. 124; Somner's "Appendix," No. xxxviii.; Weaver's "Funeral Mon.," p. 262; Drake's "Eboracum.," p. 420, etc.

† Pliny, "N. H.," lib. xxxvi., c. xvii.

monastery whereof she was abbess, according to the order of her death, and in a wooden coffin—"et æque, ut ipsa jusserat, non alibi quam in medio eorum, juxta ordinem quo transierat, ligneo in locello sepulta."* This implies that otherwise a person of her high birth and great dignity would have been buried in a coffin of stone. This inference is undoubtedly just, for it follows after, in the author, that her sister Sexburg, who succeeded her as abbess, after she had lain in her grave sixteen years, caused her bones to be taken up, put into a new coffin, and translated to a place in the church. "Jussitque quosdam fratres quærere LAPIDEM, de quo LOCELLVM in hoc facere possent: qui ascensa navi, . . . venerunt ad civitatulam quandam desolatam, . . . et mox invenerunt juxta muros civitatis LOCELLVM de MARMORE ALBO pulcherrime factum, operculo quoque similis LAPIDIS aptissime tectum," etc.

Let this, then, suffice for the antiquity of these stone coffins in this island; as to more modern times, the use of them continued, it seems, as late as the reign of Henry III., for William Furnival, who flourished at that time, was buried in a stone coffin, tells us of your Lichfield prelate and saint, as we find in Dr. Thoroton's "Nottinghamshire," p. 456, and Sir Wm. Dugdale's "Monasticon," tom. ii., p. 926. The metrical epitaph, being misreported, though by both those authors, I shall here recite it, with the proper corrections:

"Me memorans psalle, simili curris quia calle,
De Fournivalle pro Willalmo, rogo, psalle."

But in some cases the custom continued as long as Henry VIII.'s time, as appears from "Brown Willis's Cathedrals," vol. ii., p. 59.

But how comes this coffin, you will ask, to be without the church, and on the north side of it? 'Tis true that, according to our present usage, few people are buried in our ordinary parochial churchyards on the north side of the church. But in cities and towns, you are sensible, it is otherwise, and I suppose I need not give instances to you. As to the other particular, the coffin's lying without the fabric, I imagine it never was within it, for, when Roger Clinton, Bishop of Lichfield, about the year 1148, erected your present neat and elegant cathedral, he certainly did not contract, but rather enlarged, the dimensions of the old foundation. Until the time of Cuthbert, Archbishop of Canterbury, whose pontificate began A.D. 740, and ended in 748, the custom of burying within the precincts of towns and cities did not prevail here.† But it was not till towards the Norman Conquest that persons, how great soever, were buried in churches, unless it happened that they were removed thither on account of their extraordinary sanctity, and in order to be reputed and worshipped as saints. Thus St. Awdry above was translated into the church by her sister, and Bede tells us of your Lichfield prelate,

* Beda, iv., c. xix.

† Matth. Parker's "Antiq.," p. 91, and Staveley's "Hist. of Churches," p. 26.

St. Chad, "Sepultus est primo quidem juxta ecclesiam sanctæ Mariæ; sed postmodum constructa ibidem ecclesia beatissimi apostolorum principis Petri, in eandem sunt ejus ossa translata,"* and this is very agreeable to that canon of King Edgar, "docemus etiam ut in ecclesia nemo sepeliatur, nisi sciatur quod in vita deo bene placuerit, ut inde judicetur, quod sit tali sepultura dignus."†

The steps by which we came to bury in churches so generally, as now we do, a custom which almost everybody complains of, and nobody cares to rectify, appear to me to be these: persons of an extraordinary reputed sanctity were first placed there, as in the cases of St. Awdry and St. Chad. Founders and patrons, and other great names, began then to creep as near as they could to the fabric, and so were laid in the porch‡ (and it is observable that the stone coffin we are speaking of was found lying very near the north door of the great cross) or in the entry of the cloisters,§ or in the cloister itself before the chapter-house door,‖ or in the chapter-house,¶ or in the sacristy.** Sometimes the bodies were reposited in the wall, first on the outside, a very notable instance of which, as I remember, you have at your church at Lichfield, and then in the inside of the wall.†† In process of time they began to erect aisles, and to bury and establish chantries in them; after which they made free with the body of the church; and lastly, but I think chiefly since the Reformation, except in the cases of sanctity above mentioned, they had recourse to the chancel.

It appears from this short state of affairs that the bones found in the stone coffin in question must be those of some person of considerable note, that flourished some time after the year 748, but probably not till some short time after the Norman Conquest, as I judge from the form of the arch on which the cross is erected, which is mitred after the manner of the Normans. As to the figure of the cross, nothing precise can be determined from thence; for to say nothing of the heralds who have varied the forms of crosses immensely, one sees them in shapes, infinitely various, upon tombstones.

We will say, then, upon the footing of probability, that this person might be interred about 1170, but as to who he was we are entirely at a loss.

On the lid or cover of the coffin in your draught there is the representation of a falchion, or some such instrument. Now, Bede tells us that one Ouini, a lay-brother, resided with the other monks at St. Chad's monastery at Stowe, and was the person that heard the

* Beda, lib. iv., c. 3. † Wilkin's Concil, p. 227.
‡ Staveley's "Hist. of Churches," pp. 261, 262, 263; Somn., "Antiq. Cant.," p. 117.
§ Dugd., "Monasticon," ii., pp. 126, 127. ‖ *Ibid.* ¶ *Ibid.* ** *Ibid.*
†† Somner's "Antiq. of Canterb." p. 127; Drake's "Eborac.," p. 421.

miraculous celestial music that presaged the death of that prelate; that Ouini was an illiterate man, not qualified for the study of the Scriptures, though he was a person of note and great worth. And when he retired to a monastery upon his leaving the world, he came "simplici tantum habitu indutus, et securim atqua asciam in manu ferens, to Laestigaeu, non enim ad otium, ut quidam, sed ad laborem se monasterium intrare significabat." From Laestigaeu he came to Stowe, where I presume he died. Certainly the instrument expressed upon the cover of the coffin would be proper enough to denote this person, but he cannot be the party that was interred here, because in all probability he did not long overlive the year 672, which was the time of St. Chad's death, and at that time our ancestors did not bury in towns, so that the time and circumstances do not at all accord. PAUL GEMSEGE.

[1772, *p.* 168.]

In making a vault in the middle aisle of Lichfield Cathedral, about 14 inches beneath the pavement was discovered a stone coffin, covered with a large stone. Within the coffin were found some few human bones, the upper leather of a pair of shoes, a great many fragments of plain gold lace about one inch broad, and a pewter cup or chalice with its cover, but much decayed, particularly the cover, which is extremely brittle and almost reduced to a calx.

There was also found a Roman capital W cut out of gilded leather.

As the stone cover was not entirely removed, the workmen could not exactly ascertain the situation of the cup. I have sent an exact drawing of this cup, with a fragment of the cover, which are now in my possession, in hopes that some of your antiquarian correspondents will inform the public of its use, and, if possible, the time of the interment. R. GREENE.

[1783, *pp.* 118-120.]

In the various persecutions of the Christians by the heathen Roman Emperors, that of Diocletian, which began about 300 years after Christ, was one of the most dreadful, and fell particularly upon the Britons, who were destroyed by the most excruciating deaths; when neither old age nor infancy, manhood nor weakness, were spared, but cruelty raged like a conflagration. In this their extreme distress three British kings raised a weak, undisciplined army to oppose these veteran barbarians, and a battle was fought on the borders of Staffordshire, where the Christian army and their three kings were all massacred, their carcases and bones burnt, and heaped upon a hill, according to the ancient custom of burial after a battle, and covered with a mount or tumulus, which is called Barrow-Cop Hill to this day, being the

largest and highest tumulus amongst many in this county, and within a short mile of this city.

When these dreadful persecutions were over, Constantine the Great became its protector, and, subduing his rivals, particularly the bloody tyrant Maxentius, under the banner of the Cross, he gave to Christianity a legal establishment. But having fixed his seat of empire in his own city, Constantinople, the western part of the empire was in the following ages overun by Goths, Vandals, Lombards, etc., and obliged to recall its armies from Britain, with the flower of the British youth, to the defence of Gaul and Italy. The Britons, thus robbed of their own strength, were overrun by the Picts, who poured upon the Highlands (Scotland), and ravaged the country. The Britons in their distress called in the Saxons to their assistance, who subdued the Picts, but treacherously attacked and conquered the Britons also, driving them by degrees from all the fertile parts of the country into Wales and Cornwall, and thus settled their famous heptarchy.

The seven Saxon kingdoms were at first all heathens, and lived awhile in tolerable harmony with each other. At length Oswius, the warlike King of Northumberland, fell upon the wealthy kingdom of Mercia, containing all the counties between the Trent and the Thames, and subdued it. He was so bigoted a heathen as to put his own two sons to death for having embraced Christianity; but afterwards, bitterly repenting, was himself converted, and building the cathedral of Lichfield* on the spot near which the forementioned battle had been fought and the Christian army so cruelly massacred, he called the place Lichenfield, or the Field of Dead Bodies—Lichen in Saxon signifying a dead body, which in Staffordshire and the neighbouring counties is still retained; the gates of the cathedral churchyard (and those of several parishes) through which funerals are carried being called lich-gates, now by vulgar error light-gates.

The Mercian cathedral being thus founded, the Northumbrians driven back into their own country, and the Mercian kings restored, they became Christians, and reigned in great prosperity for three centuries, when the great Offa ascended the throne, who, finding the cathedral greatly out of repair, restored and rendered it more splendid than before, making it archiepiscopal; but that honour was not continued.

About three centuries afterwards the weather had so greatly injured the cathedral, the roof being only covered with shingles, that Bishop Clinton, in the reign of Henry I., pulled it entirely down and rebuilt it upon the present magnificent scale. He roofed it with that noble stone vault which is the admiration of architects and worthy the inspection of the curious. He then covered the whole with lead. Bishop Langton, about the year 1246, added the light and beautiful

* The present cathedral was begun in 1148.

lady choir, with its highly-ornamented screen (a correct drawing of which was lately made by an artist in the town for Mr. Pennant). The Bishop also enlarged the Close, and fortified it with a strong wall and deep fosse, still in part remaining. Barrow Cop Hill, the tumulus of the three slain kings, with a figure of the present church, was made the city arms.

Nothing very remarkable happened to the cathedral from this time to the Reformation, when Coventry, which had been long united to it, was again disjoined and its monastery seized by the king.

When the civil war broke out, the nobility and gentry garrisoned the Close, and defended it against the Parliament army under Lord Broke and Sir John Gell; the former, a virulent fanatic and enemy to cathedrals, raised a battery in the street called Dam Street, and early in the siege, while standing under a porch directing the bombardiers, he was discovered, from the battlements of the lady choir, by a deaf and dumb gentleman named Dyott, who, levelling his musket at him, the ball glanced on the lintel of the porch and entered his eye. (The spot where Lord Broke stood is still distinguished by a pavement of white pebbles, and the lintel through which the ball passed is now preserved in Mr. Greene's valuable museum. The descendants of Mr. Dyott now reside at Freeford, about a mile and a half from Lichfield.) Notwithstanding the loss of the general, Sir John Gell continued the siege, battered down the central, large, and beautiful spire, and within a month the garrison surrendered. As this seems the first cathedral that was seized, after a long and obstinate resistance, the rage of civil war was then let loose. The roof was entirely stripped, the carved work, monuments, and statues were destroyed, and the church used as a stable for the troop-horses.

In the course of the war Prince Rupert besieged the Close again, and understanding the art of war better than the former besiegers (who attacked the strongest instead of the weakest part), he raised his batteries in Gay Field, a rising hill north of the church, and which overlooked the whole Close, and made the garrison submit on the second day of the siege. The Restoration followed soon after.

Amidst all the tyrannies, sequestrations, and pillages made upon the Church of England, Dr. John Hacket showed himself its adherent and hero, and offered his body even to martyrdom rather than disobey its ordinances. He was, at the beginning of the civil war, rector of St. Andrew's, Holborn, and when the Parliament, as the Commons alone called themselves, had voted down the liturgy of the Church of England and forbidden the use of it under the severest penalties, Dr. Hacket continued to read as before the daily service, and though a sergeant with a trooper rushed into the church, commanding him with threats to desist, he with a steady voice and

intrepid countenance continued, on which the murderous bigot thrust his pistol to his head, threatening him with instant death. The undaunted priest calmly replied: "Soldier, I am doing my duty; do you do yours," and with a still more exalted voice read on. The soldier, abashed, left the church.

After the Restoration this Protestant champion was made Bishop of Lichfield, and with the same zeal with which he had defended its rights and ceremonies he set about the restoration of his cathedral. In the morning after his arrival at Lichfield he raised all his servants by daybreak, and with his coach-horses and hired servants he began the great work of cleansing the Augean stable, to such a deplorable state had the enemy reduced it. By his large contributions, and by assiduously applying to and entreating every gentleman in the diocese, and almost every stranger that visited it, he is said to have raised £23,000—in that age an immense sum. The names and arms of the chiefest contributors are painted over the prebendaries' stalls in the choir. Thus he restored the cathedral to its present tolerable state. As he found the episcopal palace in ruins, he procured two prebendal houses—that in which Mr. Howard now lives and the present register's office, which he built as a banqueting-house to the other. He finished the church about the same time, and consecrated it with great pomp, formed a service on purpose, and gave three magnificent entertainments—the one for the dean and chapter and all the members of the cathedral and clergy of the diocese; one for the gentry; and one for the bailiffs, aldermen, and corporation of the adjoining city.

The rich circular west window, in front of the cathedral, was raised by the Duke of York, in the reign of Charles II., whose statue is over it, and underneath those of the Kings of Israel. This window was ornamented with coloured glass 1776, by the will of the late benevolent Dean Addenbrooke. About the same time the lead was taken from the roof, and slate substituted in its room.

The present dean and chapter have greatly repaired and beautified the chapter-house, over which is the library, containing many valuable but few modern books, some manuscripts of worth, particularly a copy of Pope Nicholas's Valor, a folio illuminated Chaucer fairly written, and a curious book of architectural drawings done in France. Mr. Seward resides at present in the bishop's palace.

Dimensions of the church: Length from the east to west is 411 feet, side aisles 66 feet, breadth of the body 153 feet, the two west spires 188 feet, and the great spire 256 feet. B. V.

[1785, *Part I., p.* 332.]

In making a vault for the late Mrs. Robinson, February 21, 1785, in the middle aisle of the cathedral church of Lichfield, two stone coffins were discovered, at the depth of four feet from the pavement;

they were both covered with loose flat stones; one of them contained nothing but dust and rubbish, in the other were found the leather of a pair of shoes or slippers, much torn, some narrow gold lace, a pewter chalice, the foot and part of the cover gone; a neat, though rudely carved crucifix in black ebony, finely polished, on one side of which appears our blessed Saviour on the cross, on the other the Virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus. These remains, by favour of the Rev. Mr. Inge, Canon Residentiary, were placed in my museum, for the inspection of my numerous visitors. An exact drawing, by Mr. Stringer, of the chalice (Fig. 3) and crucifix (Fig. 4), I send for your truly valuable repository, not doubting but that you will favour the public with an engraving of these remains of antiquity.

As stone coffins have been long disused, it would afford the highest satisfaction to many of your readers, to be informed at what era they were discontinued, and whether the chalice denoted the deceased to have been an ecclesiastic. RICH. GREEN.

P.S.—Besides the above-mentioned chalice, I have two others in my collection, nearly similar, found in the cathedral at different periods.

[1789, *Part I.*, *pp.* 401, 402.]

A learned writer of the last century supposes (and quotes the Chronicle of Lichfield) that the body of the present church was built by Roger de Clinton, who was consecrated bishop in 1128, afterwards took up the cross, and died at Antioch on a pilgrimage to the holy sepulchre. But the accurate and ingenious Mr. Pennant, with more probability, informs us that we are indebted for the present elegant pile to Walter de Langton, consecrated bishop of this see in 1296. He was greatly esteemed by Edward I., and considered as the third architect of this cathedral. He laid the foundation of St. Mary's chapel, an edifice of an uncommon beauty, finished after his death with money left for that purpose. He built the cloisters, and expended £2,000 upon a shrine of St. Chad. This prelate also surrounded the close with a wall and a ditch, made the great gate at the west end, and the postern at the south. He gave his own palace at the west end of the close to the vicars choral, and built a new one for himself at the east end, and finished his exemplary life in November, 1321.

The cathedral continued in the state it was left by Bishop Langton till the time of the dissolution, when the rich shrine of St. Chad, and other objects of similar devotion, fell a prey to the rapacity of the prince.

The building continued in beauty till the unhappy wars of the last century, when it suffered greatly by three sieges. The honour of restoring it to its former splendour was reserved for Bishop Hacket, presented to this see 1661. On the very next day after his arrival,

he set his coach-horses with carts to remove the rubbish, and in eight years restored the cathedral to its beautiful state, at the expense of £20,000, £1,000 of which was the gift of the dean and chapter, the rest was done at his own charge, and from benefactions resulting from his own solicitations. He died in 1670, and a very handsome monument was erected in the choir to his memory; the names and titles also of the several benefactors are placed over the head of each stall.

[1800, *Part I., pp.* 16-18.]

On Sunday, July 7, I attended divine service in Lichfield Cathedral. . . . I have no occasion to give any description of the cathedral, as that is sufficiently done already by others more competent; but I observed that there has been some alterations made since I was in it about two years ago; and, in order to be understood, I must refer your readers to the ichnography, or ground-plan of the church, in "Browne Willis's Cathedrals" (1723), printed also in Mr. Shaw's "History of Staffordshire." The bishop's consistory and St. Stephen's chapel, in the north transept, marked E E, which were enclosed formerly, are now laid open, and the consistory is removed to a room marked in the plan P, and there called the prebendaries' vestry, but, though so called, was never used as such since I knew the church, but served as a lumber-room.

This is now very elegantly fitted up as a court-room, with a seat, canopy, and bench, for the judge, and a large square table covered with green cloth, for the proctors, etc., to sit at, with seats for others who may have business there. There is also a handsome fireplace, and some new windows have been set up.

This room opens into the south choral aisle, and is neatly floored with oak. The places in the south transept marked I K, called the dean's consistory and vicar's vestry, have also been laid open some time; and monuments of Mr. Garrick and Dr. Johnson set up against the eastern wall. On the north side of the church there was a door which faced a fine walk with trees, and the bishop's palace. This door, which gave admittance to the chapter-house (an oblong octagon room, over which is the library), is now filled up, and a new window set in the place, so that there is no admittance to those handsome Gothic rooms but from the inside of the church, and the angles of the north transept have been also repaired and strengthened, at the time the above plan was taken, in 1723. The library, marked S in the plan, was a detached building near the north-west angle of the north cross, but it has been demolished nearly fifty years. This was not amiss, as it must, when standing, have disfigured the uniformity of the cathedral, which, in general, is the most regular of any I know. Much has been said for and against the alterations made in it within the last ten years; but one thing is certain, that it wanted

repair. This has been thoroughly done within, and in a great measure without. Before that time the place was beautiful, and it is so now. One of the alterations, however, was a great improvement; for, previous to them, the congregation moved from the choir to the nave or body of the church, during the singing of the Nicene Creed, to hear the sermon, as the pulpit and many pews were then there: these have been all taken away, and a new pulpit and many neat oak-pews erected in the choir, where the auditory remain until the whole service is over. This, I think, is much for the best; but I am not so clear but that the choir might have been lengthened about ten yards, without taking in the whole of St. Mary's chapel, to the east, as it is now certainly too long for the width. But then, if this addition only had taken place, the effect of a new altar-piece window of painted glass, the subject of which is the figure of Christ rising from the sepulchre, could not have been produced. I noticed some coats of arms on the outside of the church, in stone, over the elegant Gothic door in the middle of the south transept; one of which, on the right of the arms of the see, is, a chevron between 3 ducks, each having a small bough in his bill; another on the other side is, Ermine, on a bend, 3 annulets. Higher up is another coat, viz., within a lozenge (or woman's) shield, Or, a lion rampant, double queu'd; and for a crest, over an esquire's helmet, a bear and ragged staff. As I do not know whose arms these were, I should be much obliged for some information respecting them from some of your heraldic correspondents. J. G.

[1807, *Part I.*, *p.* 408.]

The venerable cathedral at Lichfield now boasts of having seven fine appropriate windows, purchased abroad for the chapter, to whom Government liberally relinquished the duty upon their importation. . . .

Lord Bagot has filled his fine cloisters at Blithfield with some brilliant lights of St. John's Life. S. W.

[1810, *Part II.*, *p.* 403.]

In the annexed view of Lichfield Cathedral, liberty has been taken to introduce statues into all the niches, excepting those niches in the dado under the great west window and the centre porch, they still retaining their original series. The statues that once occupied the above vacant niches were thrown down some years back by order of the then dean, he (as is reported, but it can scarcely be credited) fancying that they nodded at him as he entered the church. My friend John Carter has made the drawing on this occasion.

AN ARCHITECT.

[1811, *Part I.*, *p.* 19.]

In your last volume you have given us a good plate of the west front of Lichfield Cathedral. I have compared it with that in

Dugdale's "Monasticon," by Daniel King. (This view is somewhat more to the south-west.) They nearly agree, which shows there was an accuracy of delineation attended to, as well in the time of King as of Mr. J. Carter. The differences may many of them arise from alterations made in the building since the time that in Dugdale was taken, especially in the upper part of the great west window, that in Carter's being what, I suppose, is called the Marigold, or Catharine-wheel, finish; that in Dugdale, the intersecting pointed arch, with quatrefoils in the compartments. The cross, too, above, on the finish of the gable, is not given by Carter, it is by King. The pedestals of the statues, in the first and second rows above the dado, are also dissimilar to those in Dugdale, being by Carter tall and slender, whereas by King they are low, squat, and corbel-like. Canopy work, by Carter, in the compartments on each side the upper windows of the tower; none by King, except on the buttresses. The distant view of the centre spire is given by Carter, it is not by King; this I suppose an omission of his. By King are given more bands round the spires than by Carter; these, and the pedestals of the statues before mentioned, I should suppose have not been altered since Dugdale's draughtsman took them; the window and the cross may. The number of statues appear to correspond, or rather the niches; as Carter says, those in his are in part supplied by fancy, those in Dugdale were probably then in existence. J. TAILBY.

[1824, *Part II.*, *pp.* 295, 296.]

Surely everyone must lament the manner in which the west front of Lichfield Cathedral has lately been restored. The whole of that beautiful façade is now of plaster, appearing with all its original ornaments—at least a resemblance of them—excepting the statues, the greater number of which having been utterly destroyed, can never be replaced. The figures of the kings immediately over the doorways, and extending the entire breadth of the front, have, however, been repaired with tolerable accuracy.

The proportions and design of this noble member of Lichfield Cathedral are highly imposing and elegant, and the style of its architecture is superb, without intricacy or excess. The architect made an admirable choice of ornaments, and he employed them to the enrichment of his building with profound skill and taste. But it is to be regretted that the material used in the construction of a church that was designed for remote posterity is so susceptible of injury from the operations of time, that very few of the minute external carvings present uninjured specimens of the delicate workmanship by which they were originally distinguished. The stone is of a red hue, but not so dark or brick-like as the masonry of Chester Cathedral, whose interior exhibits in a slight degree the coarseness which renders the exterior so ragged and inelegant.

The interior of Lichfield Cathedral is as perfect in its construction

and carving as the interior of Lincoln Cathedral, and it is scarcely inferior to any other church in the beauty of its arches and columns, the elegant variety and richness of its windows, the simple grandeur of its stone roof, and the just proportions of its various aisles.

It may justly be remarked of Lichfield Cathedral, that the architect made a more equal distribution of ornaments between the exterior and interior than is to be found in almost any other edifice of the same scale. Salisbury, though less harmonious in this respect, is not less deserving our admiration. But the splendour of York is not limited to the outside of the west front: the interior of the same wall, and the side walls of the nave, are adorned with arches and tracery of incomparable beauty. The spaces between the windows and doorways in the west front of Lichfield Cathedral are entirely covered with deeply recessed niches, or shallow arches, both prepared for the reception of figures. The peculiar lightness of these bold and truly architectural features admitted a greater number of them into the design, without the effect of gaudiness, than could be accomplished in any subsequent style of the Pointed architecture. In the earlier styles there were only a few carved ornaments, and though many mouldings, they were so skilfully clustered that their general effect and their detail were equally admirable. The object lately in view at Lichfield was doubtless to repair what time had defaced among these exquisite embellishments; and as the most ornamented part of the exterior of the edifice, the west front was chosen for the experiment, which I have already mentioned as just completed. It has been proved by more instances than one that external reparations in plaster are not attended with the proposed success. At all events, the fashion of repairing stone buildings with plaster is mean and despicable. The operation a structure must necessarily go through before it is coated with this detestable substance is more destructive to its appearance than the united injuries of time and violence for many centuries. The west front of Lichfield Cathedral, already roughened by antiquity, was hatched and chipped till it resembled a huge rock in which we could here and there discover a feature which seemed to proclaim the fabric a work of art. Thus prepared, the walls were plastered, and the arches and ornaments formed in some instances according to ancient authority, and in others according to the judgment of the plasterer. I could point out several instances in which a presumptuous deviation has been made from the original; among the ornaments, the most conspicuous occurs in the arch of the principal west doorway, whose beautifully wreathed foliage differed on the sides; they are now both alike—the foliage of the left-hand side is imitated. No attempt having been made to assimilate the colour of the plaster to that of the masonry, the most glaring contrast appears between the old and the new work. While the former is rich and various in its hues, and strongly marked with every other

venerable character, the latter is white, sleek, and jointless; a stiff copy of the original; a representation of the ancient ornaments without the character and feeling which marked the work of the chisel—in short, a second-rate specimen of plaster, of a material derogatory to architecture, and recommended only by the economy of its expense.

Lichfield Cathedral is an ill-fated building. It was sadly dilapidated in the seventeenth century, and again mangled by Wyatt; and it is now undergoing so extensive a patching and plastering, that it is to be feared very little of the ancient work will remain untouched on the exterior. The restoration of the parapets of the low aisles is much to be commended, and the substitution of plain pinnacles for crocketed ones is much to be censured. Those which have been removed were in no danger of falling, and who would not rather have seen the original mouldering spirits, with a crocket here and there, than a tall plain obelisk, without the least indication of their ancient beauty? If this cropping system is pursued throughout the repairs, Lichfield Cathedral had much better remain to be deprived of all its ornaments by time.

If, instead of plastering the west front, a small sum had been annually expended in the exact and substantial restoration of the pinnacles and parapets, the grand west doorway, or the outside of the choir, the whole might have been accomplished in the most creditable manner. B.

[1848, *Part II.*, *pp.* 134-136.]

An impression from an old but little used seal of the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield having come under my observation through the kindness of a friend, I have much pleasure in obtaining his permission to send it for your inspection.

The metal of which the seal is composed is brass, and, since it continues in such a perfect state of preservation that every line and feature of it may be as distinctly traced as if only engraved yesterday, an account of the circumstances to which the preservation is indebted, and under which the seal has remained so long unknown, is undoubtedly requisite. But such account, I regret, it is not in my power to furnish.

The possessor of the seal, however, the Rev. Thomas Castley, Rector of Cavendish, near Sudbury, Suffolk, has obligingly and politely informed me by letter that it was found on a public road close to Cavendish fair-green, many years ago, by a female peasant now advanced in life; that it never has, to his knowledge, been buried in the earth; that the woman picked it up shortly after a number of persons had passed that way during a popular disturbance; that it was found by her in summer, covered with dust rather than moisture of any kind; and, lastly, that it remained in her possession for a long time hung up over the mantelpiece in her cottage as a

little regarded curiosity, until it fortunately attracted the attention of the rector during one of his pastoral visits in 1837.

The superscription, when written at full, is as follows: "Sigillum Decani et capituli Ecclesiæ Sanctæ Mariæ et Sancti Ceddæ Lychfeldiæ, ad causas." That is, "The seal of the Dean and Chapter of the church of St. Mary and St. Chad, Lichfield, for causes [in the ecclesiastical court]."

The style of the engraving is clear and good, but without claims to superiority as a work of art; and the details of the seal very clearly demonstrate the established use of Christian symbols in the age when it was engraved. . . .

As three figures appear on the seal, viz., those of Jesus, Mary, and Chad, so the symbols on it allude to these figures and to Christian mysteries. The star symbolises Him whose star was seen over Jerusalem by the wise men from the east; the moon, or *astrorum regine*, is the symbol of Mary, or Queen of Heaven; the double branch is St. Chad's emblem, as seen on a day-almanack in possession of Mr. Lomax, of Lichfield; the trefoil branching out of St. Chad's chair has symbolic reference to the Trinity; and the quatrefoil alludes to some doctrine to me unknown.*

The name of the church, it may now be observed, is not the most ancient one of a church on the same site. For Lichfield Cathedral on this site at first (that is to say late in the seventh century) was called St. Peter's, in contradistinction to a Stow Church which Bishop Chad had dedicated to God in honour of St. Mary. But on the removal to the new cathedral of this "good bishop's" remains from his former Stow, it was dedicated to God in honour of St. Mary and St. Chad; though subsequently called in popular phrase St. Chad's, as may be gathered from the various regal grants and papal confirmations of property cited by Dugdale in his "Monasticon." In like manner St. Mary's Church, Stow, is now called St. Chad's.

As to the manner of spelling Chad's name and the name of the city on the newly-discovered seal, it may be remarked that neither of

* Quatrefoil and cinquefoil ornaments are of frequent occurrence in Lichfield Cathedral. The cinquefoil I take to symbolize confession, because it is no doubt intended for a rose; and a rose was originally the emblem placed over a confessional-seat, whence "under the rose" implies the most solemn secrecy. But of the value of the quatrefoil I am ignorant, although a gentleman in Lichfield, of much antiquarian research, Mr. C. Gresley, has shown me an old wax impression of a rather small monastic seal, on which are figures of the Virgin and child with their respective emblems, or symbols, exactly similar to those on the Lichfield seal, while one of the magi, as a representative of all, appears in a kneeling posture, and offering a branch which ends in a large quatrefoil.

Can the symbol possibly allude (in this case, by anticipation) to the "four *incorruptible* woods" of which the cross of Christ is said to have been made, no matter what its exact shape? These woods were palm, cedar, olive, and cypress, each emblematic of something else.

"Ligna crucis palmæ, cedrus, cupressus, olivæ."

them is that adopted by Bede, or Stephen the Presbyter, who was a contemporary of Chad's.

The venerable historian Bede, having been educated by a "brother of Chad's monastery," invariably writes Chad's name CEADDA, although Stephen spells it CÆODDA; from either of which, however, the modern name is readily deducible. Thus *Ceadda*, pronounced by the Anglo-Saxons *Kayadda*, was by the Italian missionaries pronounced *Chayadda*, and this, in consequence of the English tendency to cut things short, was subsequently corrupted into *Chadda*, and Chadda into *Chad*. So that the variations in pronunciation successively became by easy transitions Kayadda, Chayadda, Chadda, CHAD, although the writing of the name in the middle ages on seals, altars, and stained glass was almost invariably Cedde, as indeed it occurs in the early calendars of our own Book of Common Prayer.

As for the name of the city, it has been even more variously tortured. Bede wrote it *Lecetfeld* and *Licetfeld*. In the "Domesday Survey" it is *Lecefelle*, as if Lakefield from *leccian*, to water, in allusion to the various lines of "ground drowned with water" in former days near Lichfield.*

From Dugdale's "Monasticon," vol. iii., pp. 224-239, we find that by the twelfth century the town had gained the names *Lichfield* and *Lichfeld*.

From the Parliamentary copy of the "Fœdera," etc., vol. i., part 1, we may gather that in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries it was variously spelled Lichfield, Lichfeld, Lichefeld, and *Lychefeld*, the last variety being that adopted by Bishop Walter de Langton, A.D. 1320, who signed himself Ep. Cov. et Lychefeld at this date; and the same spelling occurs on the newly discovered seal.

But, laying no stress on these facts in proof of its date, I may explain that the Rev. R. Garnett of the British Museum, who has favoured me with his valued opinion, assigns to the inscription the date of the fourteenth or fifteenth century; the earlier of which I adopt, in consequence of the architectural representations on the seal, because some of these representations agree with the longitudinal divisions on the west front, before their subdivision for "exquisite imagerie" in the fifteenth century; and in this "imagerie" it may be seen that the figure of Chad corresponds as accurately with that more immediately under consideration as if both were derived from a common authority.

* The former state of many of these lines, extending through Fisherwick, Fullfen, Dernford, Whittington Marsh, Freeford, Swinfen, Lyncroft, Pipe Marsh, Culstrobe Marsh, Lichfield Marsh, Redlock Field, the Bishop's Marsh, etc., is expressed in their remaining names.

In his "Agricultural Survey of Staffordshire," Mr. Pitt explains that before Mr. Elkington's labours the grounds in some of these localities were altogether unable to bear the weight of a horse, and that a man could not walk over them in safety; they are now, however, for the most part, sound, rich and beautiful pastures.

The seal, moreover, being of the date of the fourteenth century, shows that the west front of Lichfield Cathedral had two spires at this date, a fact on which much unsupported doubt has been thrown of late years.

The pointed arch in the upper division of the seal proves that it was engraved after the introduction of Pointed architecture, to say the least of it, and not at an earlier period, as some persons have read it. J. R.

[1866, *Part II.*, *pp.* 779, 780.]

The Mercian Bishopric has changed its designation no less than eight times. Founded in A.D. 656 by missionaries from Northumbria, who were styled for four successions Bishops of Mercia, it was in 669 constituted by St. Chad as the Bishopric of Lichfield. In 786, Higbert assumed the title of Archbishop of Lichfield, but reassumed that of Bishop of Lichfield in 799. In 1075, the see was removed from Lichfield to Chester; in 1086, from Chester to Coventry. In 1185, it was agreed that the cathedral churches of Coventry and Lichfield should form one chapter, and that precedence in the episcopal style should be given to Coventry, whereby the diocesans acquired the style of Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, which they continued till the Restoration, when the style was changed to that of Lichfield and Coventry. By an Order in Council of December 11, 1836, the archdeaconry of Coventry was transferred from the diocese to that of Worcester, and on the death of Bishop Butler in 1840 the see again became that of Lichfield alone.

The Prior of Coventry, who was mitred and had a seat in the House of Lords, was president of the joint chapter. After the surrender of the priory, an Act 33 Henry VIII. constituted the dean and chapter of Lichfield sole chapter of the bishop. It has been supposed that Lichfield took precedence from that date, or at all events much earlier than the Restoration; but not only is the see always designated Coventry and Lichfield in such records as the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" and "Liber Regis," but the letters of Bishop Overton, extracted in Strype's "Annals," are so signed; and the inscription on his tomb in Eccleshall Church is "Willîmus Ouerton, Couent; et Lichf; Epûs, 1603." None of his successors died previous to translation till Bishop Wright, who died during the siege of Eccleshall Castle, and nothing can be learnt from their monuments; but the inscription on Bishop Hackett's tomb in Lichfield Cathedral describes him as Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. Moreover, in the sales of bishops' lands at the Great Rebellion, there appears as sold to N. Lacy, Samuel Palmer, and Obadiah Chambers, "Coventry Palace," which is doubtless "The Mansion in the Strand in the county of Middlesex" of the "Valor Ecclesiasticus"; there was a palace in Coventry, but it stood within the priory precincts, and is

not enumerated in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" among the possessions of the See of Lichfield, the only possessions in Warwickshire therein mentioned being the rents of Tachbrook with Itchington. I do not doubt but that either Frewen or Hackett was the first bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. JAMES H. SMITH.

[1782, *p.* 558.]

On the north side of the close at Lichfield stood, not many years ago, an ancient house belonging to the choristers in which, in all probability, they formerly lived in a collegiate way, having a master to instruct them in chanting and singing. At what particular era this was discontinued is uncertain, probably at the Reformation. All that we know for certain is that the house hath of late years been in the possession of a lessee, and that the reserved rent is applied towards the maintenance of the choristers. This house, being much out of repair and incommodious, was taken down in the year 1772, and rebuilt in an elegant style by the present lessee. In the middle of the site of the ancient building stood a porch or gate-house, which it was necessary to remove when the dwelling-house was taken down. It was built of free-stone, and was much admired for its beauty by persons curious in antiquities; amongst these, I may mention the late President of the Antiquarian Society, Bishop Lyttelton, who never failed to pay it a visit when he came to Lichfield. The house and gateway were erected at the mutual expense of Bishop Blythe and Dean Denton, his contemporary in or about the year 1509; but I have some reason to think the dean was at the whole expense of the gateway. Leland tells us that the choristers' house was built by Bishop Blythe. Willis, speaking of Dean Denton, says, "He was a great benefactor to this church and Windsor, of which he was a canon, and expended on the chantry, priests, and choristers there £489 7s.; and indeed was very generous to all places where he had any relation." To corroborate this observation, I may add that he repaired and enlarged the market-house in Lichfield at the expense of £160.

Before the gatehouse was demolished, I caused the drawing, which I now send you, to be taken. On each abutment or springing of the arch you will perceive a tun pierced with—aye, with what? Until a better can be formed, permit me to hazard the following conjecture—the tooth or coulter of a plough is called in Virgil *Dens*. "Durum procudit arator tomeris obtusi dentem" (Georg. i., l. 62). This *dens*, or tooth of a plough (to which it bears some resemblance) piercing the tun, will furnish us with a rebus on the Dean's name, Denton. It may be objected that the combination of different languages is not usual in a rebus. I refer the objectors to Camden's "Chapter of Allusions" (see Remains), in which they will find Mor

upon a tun as a rebus upon the name of Archbishop Morton, when Mor is assuredly the first syllable of Morus, a mulberry-tree.

G. R.

[1782, *p.* 559.]

The gateway belonging to the Choristers' House at Lichfield, exhibited in your last month's number, was built, with the house itself, by Bishop Jeoffrey Blythe, between 1503 and 1532. The arms are those of the see, and of England and France quarterly. In the spandrils are a tun charged with a cockle, and pierced with a dagger or lance, which I should suppose a rebus for Langton, or at least a compliment to the memory of that prelate, who was so great a benefactor to this church. The inscription, as I copied it in 1760, was [a facsimile is given in the original]:

DOMUS CHORISTIS EXTRUC . . . . . .

I think there was in the little window over the gateway a chevron between three escallops. The gateway has been since taken down.*

[1785, *Part I.*, *p.* 100.]

Fig. 1 on the accompanying plate represents the house at Lichfield where Dr. Samuel Johnson was born; Fig. 2, part of the market-cross; Fig. 3, St. Mary's Church; and Fig. 4, part of the town hall.

[1788, *Part I.*, *p.* 9.]

The piece of sculpture, of which the enclosed drawing is an exact representation, has been lately added to my museum at Lichfield by my worthy friend Mr. Weston, of Solihull, in the county of Warwick; it is an alto-relievo, carved in alabaster, is upwards of three feet high, has been gilded and painted, but the gold and the colours are, by time, worn off, and some parts of the figures mutilated. It evidently is meant for a representation of the Blessed Trinity; the sitting figure has great dignity expressed in the countenance, and is certainly meant for the Almighty; He is crowned with the tiara; in His arms He supports the dead body of our Saviour, seemingly just taken down from the cross, as the marks of the nails and spear appear on the hands, feet, and side; from the mouth of the Father, the tail and tips of the wings of a dove are visible, but the head and body are broken off and lost. I am informed by the donor that it has been in the possession of a Roman Catholic family in his neighbourhood many years, and is supposed to have belonged to a private chapel or oratory. (See Plate I.)

By the workmanship, it appears to have been the production of the fourteenth century; but the exact time of its fabrication is sub-

* A new house stands on the ground once occupied by the house of the choristers: before it stood within memory a very pretty gate, which formed the entrance. On it was inscribed "Domus Choristes."

mitted to the opinion of some of your learned antiquarian correspondents, more skilful in these investigations than

RICH. GREENE.

[1788, *Part II.*, *p.* 847.]

Enclosed you receive an internal view of one side of the room which contains the museum of your old and worthy correspondent Mr. Greene (see Plate I.) . . . The view meets the eye of the spectator when he stands with his back to the organ. The scale is too small to do sufficient justice to the articles, nor does it include the most rare or valuable. It consists of two rooms communicating with each other by an opening crowned by a large elliptical arch, from whose centre depends, by brass chains, a buffalo's horn, mounted and neatly painted with the arms and crest of the late Sir T. Aston, of Aston in Cheshire. It was used for a drinking-cup, bearing the motto *Prest complere.* Also the tusk of an elephant, dug out of a gravel-pit near Stratford-on-Avon, six feet beneath the surface of the ground. When taken up, it measured near a yard and three-quarters in length, the ivory, by long continuance in the earth, was rendered as soft as chalk.

A collection of South Sea rarities, brought over by Captain Cook and other navigators, fills the glass case on the left hand. The opposite one, on the right hand, contains a collection of fire-arms, among which are the matchlock, wheellock, and sinaphance — Turkish, Spanish, Italian, and old English muskets. Pistols of almost all kinds occupy the lower part of the case.

In the centre of the inner room appears an uncommon musical altar-clock whose outer case (as in the plate) represents a Gothic church-tower, adorned with pinnacles, battlements, images, etc., and crowned with an octagonal lantern of open work. H. W.

[1794, *Part I.*, *p.* 413.]

I have sent you a drawing (Plate III., Fig. 1) of the schoolroom at Lichfield, in which, among many others, the following well-known and eminent characters received part of their scholastic education: Mr. Addison, whose father was Dean of Lichfield; Lord Chief Justice Willes; Mr. Justice, afterwards Lord Chief Justice Wilmot; Lord Chief Baron Parker; Sir Richard Lloyd, Baron of the Exchequer; the celebrated Dr. Johnson; Mr. Garrick; and Dr. Newton, Bishop of Bristol. It is now in a state of dilapidation, and unfit for the use either of the masters or boys. It may, however, be acceptable to your readers. H.

[1797, *Part I.*, *p.* 280.]

The half-boots of the soles, of one of which I have sent you a drawing (see Plate II., Fig. 3), were found in the stone coffin of

Adam de Stanford, precentor of Lichfield Cathedral, who died in 1278. They are pump soles with spring heels, and appear to have been very little worn. It is remarkable that the stitches do not pass through from the bottom of them, but from the middle of the edge. If Antiquarian will be at the trouble of delineating the form of one of his own feet, he will find it very much to resemble them; and if he will place his other foot upon the drawing, he will, I think, be convinced that he could not wear a pair of shoes, made according to it, indiscriminately upon each foot.

RICH. GEO. ROBINSON.

[1864, *pp.* 95, 96.]

On page 4 of a professed account of Croyland Abbey, from the MSS. and drawings of the Rev. W. Stukeley, the following notices occur: "6 Oct., 1736. I found out St. Chad's cell, or hermitage, or oratory, at St. Chad's church, by Lichfield. It was on the north-west side of the church and steeple. It was pulled down but a few years ago. St. Chad's well is by it.—W. S." "The traces of this building may still be seen on the wall of the church. The old stone well has recently been destroyed, and a summer-house-looking place built over the water.—J. M. G." The account of Croyland was printed at Ashby, Leicestershire, in the year 1856.

First, as to the oratory, it must be understood that Chad came to Lichfield in the year 669; on which occasion, as one of his early companions informed Bede, "he here built for himself a habitation not far from the church"; and this habitation contained an oratory. But both church and oratory must have been of very humble character, and speedily erected; because, though Chad lived only two years and a half at Stow, yet Bede records Chad's habit of constantly resorting to the oratory for some undefined time before his death. A week before this event, the good bishop was alone at prayer when he heard such unusual noise overhead as induced him to call in Owin, who happened at the time to be working out of doors, while his "companions were gone to the church." Chad then said to Owin, "Make haste to the church, and cause our seven brothers to repair hither, and do you come with them."

Now, when it is remembered that Chad was educated by Irish missionaries, and that he spent a "long" time in Ireland for the purpose of study, it may readily be granted that the church erected by Bishop Chad at Lichfield was built "after the manner of the Irish: not of stone, but of oak, and covered with reeds." So that to unveil the innocence of those "antiquarians" who imagine that St. Chad's oratory formed part of the St. Chad's church built more than seven hundred years after his death, would be sheer waste of words.

Secondly, as to the well. The accounts given of it in the sixteenth

century by Leland and Stow are identical. They describe it as "a spring of pure water, where is seen a stone in the bottom of it, on the which, some say, St. Chad was wont to stand naked in the water, and pray. At this stone Chad had his oratory." (See Harwood's "History of Lichfield," pp. 300 and 509.) Whatever the well might have been originally, it had, by the year 1833, degenerated into a most undignified puddle, more than six feet deep; there was not any outlet, as pictured by Stukeley, for escape of water; the brook was not, as in the drawing, close to the well; and instead of running, as drawn by romance, from west to east, it ran, as nature drew it, from south to north.

The well is situated at a place called Littleworth: a name which means "the little meadow." And from two men of far-advanced age, in the year 1833, I learned that the supply of clear water around the well had become much lessened by the drainage of the lower meadows during the latter part of the eighteenth century. At all events, by the date first named here, the well-basin had become filled up with mud and filth; and on the top of this impurity a stone had been placed, which was described by the sight-showers as the identical stone on which St. Chad used to kneel and pray!

For my own part, hoping by means of a public subscription to procure a new supply of water for the site of the ancient baptistery—a once venerated spot, whence the heart of Saxon England had become civilized through the medium of Christianity—I endeavoured to exclude the surface water of the old marsh land from the well, because of this surface water being loaded with ochre: and, as a feeder for the well, a supply of clear water was carefully obtained from the rock at a moderate distance, for close to the well a running sand became an impediment to the work. Over the well an octagonal building was erected with a Saxon-headed doorway, and a stone roof surmounted by a plain Latin cross; and the considerate author of "Impressions of England," second edition, New York, 1856, at the commencement of his observations, having "paid a visit" to "the well of St. Chad," was pleased also to pay a compliment, which was some consolation to me under the severe blow then so recently inflicted by the Leicestershire censor.

It being the received opinion that St. Chad used the well at Stow for a baptistery, I may add that the tradition is borne out by the fact that when a drain was cut from the well to the brook in the year 1842, the clearest proof was found of a paved causeway having at one time extended in that direction, as if an intended road to the church. And as we have also a tradition about St. Chad kneeling on a large stone at prayer, I may, with your permission, on some future occasion give an account of a large stone font not long since discovered near certain old foundations in the cathedral, which were examined throughout by Mr. John Hamlet and myself only. The

font, the contents of the font, and the pillar close to it, and immediately under the ancient site of the wooden shrine described by Bede, afforded unmistakable evidence of great care in depositing the font and its contents. JAMES RAWSON, M.D.

Longcroft.

[1783, *Part I., p.* 396.]

The antique painting, a description of which I now send, has been for many years in the possession of the ancient family of Arden, and was lately presented to my museum by Mrs. Arden, relict of Henry Arden, Esq., of Longcroft, in the county of Stafford.

It has been undoubtedly an altar-piece to a domestic chapel or oratory, and is supposed by the style and colouring to be more than three hundred years old. The ten panels or compartments into which it is divided, are painted in oil colours upon oak boards, and are enclosed in one frame, and represent the following pieces of Sacred History, viz.: 1. Christ presented in the Temple. 2. The betraying by Judas. 3. St. Roch in the habit of a pilgrim, with a dog bringing him a piece of bread; and St. Anthony with his pig and bell. 4. Christ nailed to the Cross; 5. and in the centre the Crucifixion. 6. The taking down from the Cross. 6. Jesus Christ laid in the Sepulchre. 8. The Ascension. 9. One of the sacred writers receiving inspiration from above. 10. St. Francis honoured with the stigma, or five wounds of our Saviour, seemingly in a trance.

The whole is 5 feet 6 inches wide, and in height 3 feet 2 inches.

R. GREENE.

Longnor.

[1791, *Part II., p.* 1187.]

Epitaph for William Billing, a soldier, who died at Fairfield, the place of his nativity, near Longnor, in the county of Stafford, at the advanced age of 112, on Friday, January 28, 1791. By the Rev. Dr. Adamthwaite (author of the "Elegy," p. 854).

> "Conquests I shar'd, in many a dreadful scene,
> With matchless Marlbro' and with brave Eugene.
> To peaceful quarters billetted am I;
> And here, forgetful of my labours, lie.
> Let me alone awhile, asleep, not slain,
> And when the trumpet sounds I'll march again."

J. A.

Madeley.

[1809, *Part I., pp.* 409-411.]

Madeley Church is situate in a village in the hundred of Pirehill, in the county of Stafford, about five miles to the west of Newcastle-under-line, and is an ancient stone building. It consists of a nave,

side-aisles, transepts, and a chancel at the east end of the nave; to the north wall of which latter is affixed a chapel of the same size and plan, or nearly so, as the transepts; it has also a south porch, and a square embattled tower at the west end of the nave, in which is a ring of five bells. A sixth bell has been bequeathed by Samuel Stretch, and is about being added to the present set. In the interior, the different parts are separated from each other by pointed arches, supported on plain pillars.

On the north side of the chancel arch is the reading-desk and pulpit, the latter of which bears marks of antiquity, being of old oak moderately carved with small Saxon arches. It has a crimson velvet cloth and cushion, which were the gift of the Rev. Thomas Barlow, as appears from one of the Tables of Benefactions.

Above the same arch in the nave is printed the Lord's Prayer, Belief, and Ten Commandments on two tables; and between them are the royal arms, which were painted so late as in 1804.

A small brass chandelier of twelve lights is suspended from the middle of the ceiling of the nave, and is inscribed:

"BEQUEATHED BY SAMUEL STRETCH OF MADELEY."

There is a small organ at the west end of the nave.

The following is an account of the benefactions to the poor, etc.

On a table over the second pillar, counting from the pulpit on the north side of the nave:

"The Rev. Thomas Barlow, vicar, in his life-time gave a velvet pulpit cloth, cushion, communion-cloth, silver tankard, and salvers."

On another table, opposite the above:

"An account of ye Benefactors to the Poor of this Parish:

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Thomas Bowyer left	20	0	0
Ralph Egerton, of Betley, Esq., gave	40	0	0
Mr. James Shaw	10	0	0
Mr. William Clayton	10	0	0
Mr. John Weston	20	0	0
Mrs. Rose Thompson left to be dealt in cloth on St. Thomas's day	50	0	0
Mrs. Jane Thompson	10	0	0
Mr. John Lightfoot	5	0	0
Mrs. Anne Giles	50	0	0
Mr. Weston Bayley left twenty pound, which is paid into the Parish's hand	20	0	0
Left by an unknown hand	7	0	0
Ralph Horton, gent., in his lifetime gave	200	0	0

In the chancel, against the south wall, on a large board:

"A Catalogue of the Benefactions to the Church, School and Poor of ye Parish of Madeley, given by Sir John Offley, knt., and his heirs.

"Imp. The said Sir John Offley gave by his will ten pounds, to be paid forthwith to so many of ye poor of ys Parish as his Executors shall think fit.

"Item. He bequeath'd to so many poor men of Madeley and Muckleston, as

he should be years old at the time of his decease, so many cloth gowns, to attend his corpse to Church.

"Item. He gave a hundred and twenty pounds, or whatsoever more would erect and build two decent and convenient schoolhouses, in such manner as his will directs.

"Item. He directed threescore pound a-year to be payable by his heirs out of the lands of Upper and Neather Thornhall, for finding a schoolmaster, usher, and schoolmistress for the said schools.

"Item. He directed ten alms-houses to be built, and endowed the same with forty-five pound a-year, payable out of his lands and tenements in the City of London; likewise in Hackney, Stepney, and elsewhere, in the county of Middlesex, for y^e^ clothing and maintenance of ten poor men or women of this parish.

"Item. He gave a hundred pound to buy a pulpit-cloth, cushion, and communion-carpet; also two silver flaggons and a silver cup.

"Item. He gave by his said will, twenty pound a-year for ever, for preaching a weekly Sermon in the Parish Church of Madeley.

"The Hon^rd^ Mary Offley, widow, late wife of John Offley, esq., left to y^e^ township of Madeley, the use of a hundred pound to be dealt in bread.

"John Crewe, of Crewe in y^e^ county of Chester, esq., great-grandson of the said S^r^ Jn^o^ Offley, gave in his life-time a hundred and four pounds, thirteen shillings, towards raising the bounty for this Vicarage."

Monumental Inscriptions.

In the north transept is an ancient marble altar-tomb, the sides and ends of which are adorned with seventeen sculptured effigies, male and female, some of which have wings, representing angels; but they are all much disfigured by the destroying hand of Time. Upon the top are cut the outlines of a male and female figure, and round the border thereof is inscribed:

"Hic jacent corpora randolfi egerto' armigeri, et isabell ux: sue, qui quidem randolfus obiit septimo die maij anno d'm...mo' ccccxxij°; et predicta isabell obiit ..... die, anno d'm mo' cccc... quor' aiab' p'pi'ciet' d'. Ame'."

Near to this tomb is an old oaken chest, in good preservation, with these initials and date, viz.:

"R. S. W. S.
C. W.
1695."

In the south transept, on a brass plate on the floor, is inscribed:

"Pray for the soulles of John Egerton Esqyer and Elyn his Wyf, the whiche John deceassed the first day of Apryll in the yere of our lord god mv^c^xxviij on whose soules Jh'u have mercy. Amen."

Both in the north and south transepts are several marble slabs on the floor, having inscriptions round their borders in the old letter; but, owing to the fractured state of several, and the many obliterations, they are illegible. Among those on the south side, I could discern Radulphus Egerton and a Margaret.

On the east side of the south transept are two mural marble monuments. On the first is inscribed:

"In a just regard to the many virtues of a much-honoured mother, and a beloved brother, Sir Holland Egerton, bart., appointed this monument to be erected to the memory of Elizabeth, first wife of Sir John Egerton, bart.; and John her second son. (He died in the 17th year of his age, 1704.) She was daughter, and at last sole heir, of William Holland of Denton, Heaton, &c., in the county of Lancaster; descended from that antient stem, whence several noble familys, often ally'd to the Crown, and other memorable persons, have issued. She died 1701."

On the second, which is south of the preceding:

"To the memory of Sir Holland Egerton, of Wrine-hill, Farthingoe, Heaton, &c., bart., descended (by a long succession of ancestors distinguish'd with various titles, honours, and great alliances) from the ancient Barons of Malpas: by many good qualities and virtues of his own, he did honour to so illustrious a pedigree.

"Rever'd on the Bench for an awfull gravity and a calm and steady conduct, founded on a conscious integrity and clear knowledge.

"Beloved and valued in private life for humanity, sincerity, and a fine understanding, improv'd with all kinds of science. He married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Roger Cave, of the county of Leicester, bart., by whom he was blest with an ample fortune, a numerous issue, and an uncommon goodness of temper.

"Three of his sons, who dyed before him, John in the eleventh, Holland in the first, and Cave in the second year of his age (out of a paternal fondness) he appointed to be remembred on his own monument.

"He dyed in the year of his age 44, and of Christ 1730, and was deposited in the adjacent vault, leaveing the family and estate and dignity, enjoy'd only about six months, to his son Edward."

Above this inscription on the tablet is a medallion, whereupon is the bust of Sir Holland Egerton, and below the inscription are his arms; nothing of which remains distinct, except three pheons' heads azure.

In the nave, near the reading-desk, on the floor, is a slab, inscribed to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Barlow, vicar, who died January 19, 1779, and of his wife Mary, who died May 12, 1761.

On the south wall of the chancel, near to the table of benefactions above described, on a marble tablet, is inscribed:

"This marble, erected by the hand of Friendship, protects the remains of Mrs. Martha Bayley, widow of John Bayley, esq., of the Parks; who, with the faith and piety of a true Christian, exchanged this mortal state on the 13th day of May, 1789, in the 82d year of her age. Her good sense and benevolent mind endeared her amiable character to all who were connected with her; whilst her example nourished in her only daughter, the late wife of Mr. Humphry Felton of Drayton, an emulation to imitate so excellent a parent.

"The fondest tribute which Affection pays the dead is only allotted a transient date; but the actions of the good and the virtuous have elsewhere a permanent record, which neither the darkness of the grave can conceal nor the ravage of ages moulder away."

Immediately below the above, on a brass plate fixed in the wall:

"Carolus Shaw, M.A., è Coll. SS. Trin. Cant. Ecclesiæ hujus Vicarius, Anglicanæ Pastor fidelis; vir humanitatis eximiæ, sinceritatis integræ, charitatis verè Christianæ, obijt Oct. 28, anno Domini 1702, ætatis 42."

By the side of the west wall of the chapel which is attached to the north side of the chancel, is a marble monument, which consists of a pedestal about two yards high, one broad, and one thick. Above the pedestal is a large urn, which rests upon a plinth or square piece of marble, supported by the pedestal: on three sides of this plinth are sculptured three shields, which are too much effaced to blazon. The height, from the base of the pedestal to the top of the urn, may be about four yards; but, in stating these dimensions, I write merely from conjecture, not having the means of ascertaining the dimensions with accuracy at the time I made my remarks. On the front or die of the pedestal is inscribed:

"Johanni Crewe Offley, Johannis Offley de Madeley in comit. Stafford, Armigeri, è Maria (cui pater Thomas Broughton de Broughton in eode' comit. armiger) filio et hæredi; trium liberorum superstitum Johannis et Crewe, prolis masculæ, et filiolæ Mariæ patri; Septembris die vi. anno D'ni MDCLXXXVIII. ætatis xxxviii. denato; Anna uxor unica (Johannis Crewe de Crewe in com. pal. Cestr. armigeri, et Carewe filiæ Arthuri Gorge de Chelsea in com. Midd'. eq. aurati filia, è duabus relictis natu major) hoc monumentum posuit."

Over the north window of this same chapel, on a beam, is carved 1643, which is probably the date of the repair of the church.

This church stands by the side of a public road in the village; and to the west, on the opposite side of the road, is a school, which is a plain old building, with two apartments, one for the boys and the other for the girls; it has also a small area enclosed before it. This school, I presume, is the same that was founded and endowed by Sir John Offley, as stated above in the benefactions.

T. T. E.

Maer.

[1812, *Part II., pp.* 505-509.]

The parish of Maer comprises two townships, Maer and Maerway-lane, and is situate in the north division of the hundred of Pirehill, in the county of Stafford, about seven miles to the south-west of Newcastle-under-Line. It is an adjoining parish to that of Madeley (see p. 409 of your number for May, 1809), and probably takes its name from the mere or lake adjoining. This lake covers about twenty-three acres of land, and at the east end thereof is

Maer Hall, the seat of Josiah Wedgwood, Esq., the second son of the late Josiah Wedgwood, Esq., of Etruria, near Newcastle-under-Line, to whose efforts and superior genius the Staffordshire Potteries were originally indebted for their justly-acquired celebrity. The Manor of Maer and several valuable estates were purchased a few years ago by Mr. Wedgwood, who, since he became proprietor, has been indefatigable in his exertions to improve the place. His hall has undergone considerable alterations, as well as the grounds adjoining, on which are made several new plantations, that will, in a few years, add much to the beauty of his seat. Many acres of

boggy ground have been drained, a considerable extent of waste land has been made productive, and the whole of the common, called Maer Heath, within the manor and parish of Maer, has been divided and allotted, for the purpose of enclosing and cultivating the same, by Mr. Wedgwood's active exertions, which will not only contribute to the improvement of his property, but to the benefit of the country.

Population.—In 1801 Maer, according to Capper, contained 71 houses, and 382 inhabitants. In 1653 there were 56 houses, so that during a century and a half there was an increase of only 15 houses in the parish of Maer. In 1811 the return was 78 houses and 454 persons, viz., 221 males and 233 females.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is situate a few yards to the east of Maer Hall, and is a small plain stone building, consisting of a nave, north aisle, a chancel at the east and a tower at the west end of the nave. It has also a south porch. This church appears to have been erected or rebuilt in 1610, as that date is inscribed on the south side of the tower, and will hold, as I guess, about 150 persons.

Monuments.—Against the south side of the nave is a plain mural marble monument, inscribed:

"Sacred to the memory of Robert Macclesfield, esq., who departed this life on the eighth day of April, 1779, aged ninety years. Also of Mrs. Elizabeth Macclesfield, his wife, who departed this life on the seventeenth day of September, 1739, aged forty-four years. Also of Peter Macclesfield, esq., their only son, who departed this life on the seventh day of June, 1768, aged forty-one years. Requiescant in pace."

Arms: Gules, a cross engrailed ermine.

Against the south wall of the chancel is an altar-tomb, having on the top two effigies as large as life, a male in armour, and a female by his side. On the front and ends of this tomb are affixed 11 coats of arms, each of which is parted per pale. Eight of them have the following arms on the dexter and three on the sinister sides of the shields, viz., Arg. a lion rampant gu. between 3 cross crosslets fitchée of the same. The shields are too indistinct to blazon correctly. Over most, if not all, of them, is a scroll, probably containing the Christian names of the children of Sir John Bowyer and his lady, one or two only of which are legible. Round the border of the top part of the tomb is the following inscription:

"Here lye the bodies of Sir John Bowyer, knight, and Ladie Catherine, his lou'i'g wyffe; A daughter of Sir Christopher Yelverto', k'ight, one of the Justices or the Ki'gs Mate Bench; which said Sir John deceased the 17th daie of March in a'no 1604. And the Ladi' Katheri'e dece'sed the . . . daie of . . . in a'no . . ."

On the front of this tomb, towards the bottom, is inscribed, in capitals:

"Rve not his death, whom death doth but revive: I builde this tombe to inclose my husband's bones. I, his faithful spouse, did frame . . . . yealde ruth to me, that live to dye . . . alive. C. B. . . . . And doe appoynte, when death shall come, to lye within the same."

It appears from the parish register that Lady Catherine Bowyer was buried December 19, 1631: and from the same authority the issue of Sir J. B. and his lady was most probably as follows:

"John, who was buried Aug., 1594. Christopher, who was baptized April 30, 1592; Mary, April 7, 1594; Anne, Feb. 21, 1596; George, Sept. 2, 1597; Elizabeth, April 6, 1599; James, August 8, 1600; Richard, May 13, 1602; Edward, July 27, 1603.

"William Bowyer and Maria Bowyer were married May 11, 1614."

On the sides of the chancel window in the north wall are fixed two shields, which can only be blazoned in part; that on the east side is charged with 3 shovels, impaling 2 bars; that on the west side is a lion rampant, impaling 3 shovels.

The cloth for the Communion Table is an old Turkey carpet, and is remarkable for its antiquity: it is much injured by time, and has the donor's name, etc., wrought on its ends as follows, in capitals:

"The gift of Margaret Tether, davghter of Thomas Pickin, of Meare Heath, brovght by her from Constantinople, and given to Meare Chvrch, An'o D'ni 1639."

The Parish Register commences in January, 1558. . . .

In 1729 were 28 funerals; in 1778, 21 baptisms; and in 1756, 6 weddings, which are the greatest number of each that have yet taken place in any one year. . . .

Extracts from the register:

"Gulielmus Clayton generosus, senex, et Elizabetha uxor sua in eodem sepulchro (et eodem die) sepulti fuere, 9° Decembris, anno 1625."

"Johannes Cleyton generosus (pietatis, charitatis, et humilitatis vitaq' morteq' memorabile exemplar) sepultus fuit Maii 4°, 1637°."

* "Richardus Wilson, vir longævus, qui (ut ipse dixit) ad centesimum tricesimum octavum annum ætatis suæ vixisset, sepultus fuit Decembris 24°, 1639°."

* "Catherina Morgan (centum annorum ad minus) sepulta fuit Februarii 6°, 1639-40."

* The following additional instances of longevity are extracted from the register belonging to the chapelry of Lane End (now Longton), in the parish of Stoke-upon-Trent.

Burials.

1769. October 27. Lydia Barber, aged 107 years.
1774. September 23. Rosanah, al's Rosamund Cook, aged 124 years.
1776. February 14. Elizabeth Mills, aged 100.
1780. August 11. Sampson Smith, aged 99.
1780. November 10. Sarah Hollins, aged 100.

In the church of Adbaston, near Eccleshall, Staffordshire, is recorded the following:

"William Wakeley, late of the Outlands in this parish (Adbaston), died November 28, 1714, aged 125 years."

So that we have here a list of eight persons, the amount of whose ages is 893 years!

"Thomas Pickin (vir honestissimus, et pacificum villæ ferè fulcrum) sepultus fuit Junii 17°, 1640."

"Randulphus Hodgkin, curatus, sepultus erat 22° Decembris, 1642, qui fuit vir honestus, constans p'c'olis p'dicator, viginti expletis & a'plius annis; sed (animâ jam Deo, qui eam dedit, redditâ) corpus ejus in boreali p'te Adyti resurrecturum nunc inhumatum jacet."

"Alicia Hodgekin, uxor doctissimi necnon disertissimi viri Dom' Randulphi Hodgekin, nuper curati de Mayre, sepulta fuit duodecimo Septembris, 1656."

"Robertus Pickin, quondam civis et mercator Londinensis, singularis pietatis necnon infractæ patientiæ, vir, sepultus fuit 6^to^ Septembris, 1657."

"Honourable Mrs. Elizabeth Cranstown, of the parish of Woolstanton, buried June 19, 1767."

"Lady Frances Murray, of the parish of Woolstantón, was buried Jan. 19, 1773."

"Feb. 18, 1730. There was collected for Protestants at Copenhagen, in Denmark, 4s. 8d."

"Mem. 1755. This year was very remarkable for the wetness of the season and the lateness of the harvest: corn was not all got in until the middle of November."

The living is a curacy, endowed with a small parsonage-house, about two acres of glebe, and the great and small tithes of the parish, excepting one or two estates which are tithe-free. In an edition of Lloyd's "Thesaurus," published in 1788, its clear yearly value is stated at £20. Its present reputed annual value is upwards of £200, which will be very considerably enhanced when the common land is cultivated, and the tithes thereof are added to the present income. It is situate in the deanery of Newcastle and Stone, archdeaconry of Stafford, and diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. The archdeacon's procurations are 7s. 6d.

The following list of the curates of Maer is copied from the Parish Register:

Robert Marchenton, 1558.
John Huntbach, 1598.
Thomas Goodwin, 1606.
Thomas Wood, 1607.
Ralph Heywood, 1609.
Gilbert Gallamore, 1610.
Thomas Cope, reader, 1614.
Robert Tomlynson, 1615.
William Bourne, 1622.
Randulph Hodgekin, 1622.
Thomas Cope, 1642.
Robert Marchenton, 1643.
William Dicken, 1654.

Ralph Hall, 1661.
John Poyntor, 1662.
Matthias Hill, 1663.
Richard Whytall, 1681.
Edward Vernon, 1691.
Robert Cox, 1697.
Thomas Smallwood, 1705.
Thomas Fernyhough, 1726.
Joseph Berks, 1728.
John Smallwood, 1734.

John Fernyhough, B.D., succeeded Smallwood about 1783, and retained it till his death in 1803 (see vol. lxxxi., part i., p. 326), when he was succeeded by the Rev. Robert Smith, the present incumbent.

The patron is Josiah Wedgwood, Esq.

Benefactions.—Mr. William Cleyton, gent., of Radwood, in the parish of Maer, left by his last will and testament, bearing date November 8, 1625, the sum of one hundred pounds, for certain charitable uses, for a limited time. And his son, John Cleyton, of the same place, on September 18, 1634, gave the sum of sixty pounds, with which sum and his father's legacy, amounting to £160, he purchased from Sir William Bowyer, knight, of Knipersley, in the county of Stafford, an annual rent of eight pounds, payable every Lady Day and Michaelmas Day, by equal portions, charged upon certain lands, etc., in the parish of Maer. He also appointed trustees to receive the said annual rent, and to pay the yearly sum of four pounds thereof, by two equal portions, to the minister of Maer, "to encourage him to take pains in preaching, and also in catechising and instructing the ignorant in the principles of religion." Also, to pay the sum of four pounds, being the residue of the said annual rent of eight pounds, for and towards placing poor children, of the parish of Maer, apprentices in some honest and lawful calling.

The sum of eighty pounds was given by different benefactors to the poor of this parish; among whom were Mr. Dale, who gave £20; and Mr. John Cox, of Drayton, co. Salop, who bequeathed in his will, dated April 22, 1691, the sum of £10. The latter (Mr. Cox) bequeathed his charity to the town of Maer, and to be distributed in portions of twelve pence each, a little before Christmas. The other benefactors were probably some of those whose names appear above, in the extracts from the Parish Register.

The annual rent of six shillings and eightpence is charged upon certain lands, etc., near the village of Maer, in the said parish, and is paid to the overseers: it is called candlestick money.

I should be deficient in showing that respect which is due to the friends of the poor, were I to omit to mention the benevolent disposition and charitable deeds of the present hospitable and pious

lady at Maer Hall, the wife of Josiah Wedgwood, Esq. This lady's constant attention to the wants of the poor, at her different places of abode, has ever been manifested in a way that has gained her their unfeigned respect and praise. The poor of Maer are indebted to her for many favours; and their obligations have been further increased by the establishment of a Sunday-School in the parish, which she and her daughters personally superintend; thus affording to the children of the poor the benefit of instruction, and causing many to attend Divine Service, and to reverence the Sabbath, who would otherwise be in danger of being brought up in a disregard of both.

W. S.

Mavesyn-Ridware.

[1785, *Part II.*, *p.* 861.]

On Friday, September 2, during some alterations in a chapel, formerly an oratory, on the north side of Mavesyn-Ridware church, five miles from Lichfield, a stone coffin was found, with a circular compartment for the head, and in it a human skeleton, which, from various old deeds in his possession, the ingenious and worthy proprietor has, with great care, fairly and truly transcribed; and, from other circumstances, appears to be the remains of Hugo Mavesyn, who was buried in the reign of Henry I., and son of Henry Mavesyn, a Norman, who came into England with William the Conqueror, and had lands given him in Staffordshire. The skeleton was amazingly strong boned, and the teeth singularly white and round, though interred above 640 years since. In an adjoining Gothic niche in the wall, near the above-mentioned stone coffin, was discovered, with small portions of linen sear cloth, the skeleton of Henry Mavesyin, a Knight Hospitaller, and great-grandson of Hugo, in a coffin of lead of an uncommon form. These remains, after being exposed to gratify the curious, were ordered to be covered again, with the greatest care possible, and under his own inspection, by their descendant Charles Chadwicke, Esq., of Mavesyn-Ridware Hall, and owner of the aforesaid chapel. Mr. Barret, an ingenious draughtsman from Manchester, attended Colonel Chadwicke from Lancashire, where he principally resides, and has taken accurate drawings of the coffins, and other ancient tombs in the said aisle.

Moseley.

[1823, *Part II.*, *p.* 414.]

At a sale of antiquated and decayed furniture, in May, 1822, at the old Mansion House, Moseley, the ancient seat of the Whitgreaves (celebrated in history for the concealment of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester), was an old picture—size of the canvas, 6 ft. 10 in. by 3 ft. 7 in.—which, being freed from the dust of ages, is found to be a fine portrait of a lady, apparently from twenty to twenty-five

years of age, tall and handsome; her auburn hair is twined from the face on each side, and from the forehead over a cushion on the head, which is ornamented with wreaths of pearls, feathers, etc., a ruff round the neck of deep rich point lace, a small gold seal suspended as a locket by silk cord, and hung round the neck.

The robe is of black velvet, with white diagonal stripes, embroidered in front and round the bottom. A green scarf round the left arm, richly embroidered, ruff of point lace at the wrists, and bracelets with five rows of pearls and emeralds. The waist long and taper, and a broad stomacher covered with profusion of pearls and emeralds continued round the bosom to the shoulders, ending with large rosettes of pearls.

The petticoat of white satin, beautifully embroidered, representing the Tower of London, and three great rivers of England, illuminated with rays of golden light. Dolphins are sporting in various directions in the water, the bottom trimmed with a deep gold fringe. The shoes a tan colour, almost covered with gold spangled net-work.

This beautiful and interesting figure has her right hand on a book, which rests on a high chair covered with scarlet leather, and fringed with gold. The cover of the book is turned back to show the title-page, of which the painter appears to have made a facsimile. The book is a translation of Cæsar's "Commentaries," by Clement Edmundes; the fingers cover the greater part of the letters at the top of the title-page, which are consequently omitted.

The fingers of the left hand rest lightly on the hoop; on the fourth finger is an ornamental ring below the joint, held on by silk cord, tied round the wrist; on the little finger of the right hand is another ring fastened in the same manner. The background ornamented with crimson drapery, edged with gold.

This curious picture was purchased by Mr. John Lewis, Wolverhampton, for a few shillings only, and has since been sold for more than forty pounds.

The late Thos. H. F. Whitgreave, Esq., who died January, 1816, was a gentleman of the true old school, and lived in his old mansion at Moseley, as his father and forefathers had done before him. But the house is now occupied by two servants only, a reputable Roman Catholic priest occasionally officiating in the chapel within it. There is a good engraving of this old house in Stebbing Shaw's "History of Staffordshire." During the time of the late Mr. W., in the dining-parlour were many family portraits, and also one of King Charles II., who was concealed here by his (Mr. W.'s) great-grandfather, after the fatal battle of Worcester, September, 1651, and whose "secret place," in the closet of a lodging-room, a part of the floor of which takes up, I have been in. The king must have been, from his stature, much cramped in it, "but they durst not" (says the old pamphlet of Boscobel) "adventure to put him into any bed, in an open chamber."

The picture above described was in a black frame, and usually hung behind a bed in one of the lodging-rooms.

On an old press which stood in one of the lodging-rooms, is carved the date 1575, and on the top of it these words: "Slepe not without repentance."

Norbury.

[1801, *Part I., p.* 127.]

In the parish of Norbury, a village in Staffordshire, situate near to the road between Newport and Eccleshall, about four or five miles distant from Newport, is an old manor-house called Norbury Manor, belonging to an estate of Thomas Anson, Esq., of Shukborough, near Stafford, and situate close to a wood. This house is curious for the antiquity of its building, and is surrounded by a large moat in some places between 20 and 30 yards wide; in the inside of the house are some old pictures much effaced by the ravages of time. It is now in a ruinous state, and inhabited by a tenant. I imagine this house once to have been the residence of some baron, and shall esteem it a favour to be informed in what reign it was built, and who were its first possessors, or any other circumstance relative to it that may be thought curious. WILLIAM SNAPE.

Norton-le-Moors.

[1818, *Part II., pp.* 307-310.]

Norton on the Moors is a parish in the hundred of Pirehill North, in the county of Stafford. It contains two townships, Norton and Bemersley.

Norton township in 1811 contained 1,586 and Bemersley 175 inhabitants. The population of the parish was then 1,761. The chief places or hamlets in the parish, besides the village of Norton, are Milton, Whitfield, Ford Green, Norton Green, Ball Green, Bemersley, Woodhouse Lane, Brown Edge, Badiley Edge, etc. The two last are commons, containing several cottages, some scattered and several nearly adjacent.

According to the ancient record, "Testa de Nevill," compiled 19 and 24 Henry III., Norton belonged to William of Norton and Edward of Stafford, who held it of Nic., Baron of Stafford. "Will. de Norton and Edw. de Stafford, ten. Norton sup. le Moors de p'dict Bar., p. 1, f." etc.

Heakley Hall, or Heckleigh, is an ancient mansion noticed in the same document as being then the residence of Tho. Corbet. It is now a farmhouse in this parish, near to Norton Green, and the property of C. B. Adderley, Esq., of the Hanes, near Coleshill, Warwickshire, who is joint lord of the manor with John Sparrow, Esq., of Bishton, near Stafford, and owner of extensive and valuable property in the parish.

Coal abounds, and is gotten at various depths. Some pits are 80 yards deep and more. The strata vary from 3 to 7 feet in thickness. The principal works are at or near Ford Green, Whitfield and Bemersley. At the former place the price is 5d. the cwt., or 8s. 4d. per ton. A work called Cockshead Colliery, at or near Norton Green, formerly employed a number of hands, but has been discontinued for several years. The engine which drew off the water from the mine is now employed in the summer-time in pumping water into the Grand Trunk Canal. . . .

A clay of great rarity and value is found in this parish. It is that sort which is used at forges in melting small pieces of iron. Its power to withstand heat is beyond the common fire-brick, or sagger-clay, and it is said to be ten times its value.

The village of Norton is situate on the public road between Newcastle and Leek, about five miles from the former place.

The church is a small brick building. It contains a nave and side aisles, a chancel at the east and square tower at the west end of the nave. The tower has a parapet wall at the top, on each corner of which is a ball or small globe. It is remarkable for containing the only doors of entrance, the chief of which is on the west side, and leads into the body of the church. A gallery at the west end is entered by a flight of steps on the north side, and on the outside of the tower, which is also the way to the belfry, and station for the ringers. The lower part of the tower may be considered as a kind of porch to the church, and contains the following proper notice and order on a table on the wall:

"As there is in many parishes a rule made that except the Corpses be brought to Church by fair day-light, precisely at a certain hour, they are not to be buried till the next morning:—And whereas there is in this parish a growing ill custom of burying at late hours, to the harm and damage of the living, without the least benefit to the dead:—And whereas many persons attending funerals complain of the inconvenience of being subjected to the cold and damp of the night air, and obliged to return home in the dark:—Therefore it is hereby ordered for the advantage of all, and the disadvantage of some, that every Corpse shall be at the Church at the times hereafter mentioned; viz., in November, December and January at ½-past 3; in October and February at four; in all the other months at five.

"Thomas Middleton, Curate.
"Richard Ball, } Church Wards.,
"Francis Hargreaves, } 1775."

Two tables of benefactions in the church record the following charities to the poor:

First Table.

"Mr. John Pott, schoolmaster of Norton, left the use of ten pounds yearly, for ever, to the poor householders of the parish of Norton.

"Hugh Ford, late of the nearer side of the water, left the use of four pounds yearly, for ever, to the poor.—Hugh Ford and John Sherratt put in trust for both.

"Hugh Meare, late of Norton-hall houses, left the use of five pounds yearly, for ever to the poor.—John Sherratt put in trust.

"William Meare, late of Pott-Shrigley, in the county of Chester, left the sum of 50 shillings yearly, for ever, out of a field called Annat's field.

"William Ford, father of the aforesaid Hugh Ford, of the nearer house to Norton, on Ford Green, left the sum of six pounds yearly, for ever, whereof 40 shillings was lost.

"*Item.* William Forde, late of the further side the water, left the use of 20 pounds yearly, for ever, towards the maintenance of a schoolmaster.

"Mr. Thos. Sherrett left the interest of ten pounds, for ever, to the poor of this parish.—The principal lies upon Mr. Wm. Sherrett's property in Milton.—The curate of Norton is trustee for this charity.

"Rev. D. Turner, A.B., curate, 1804."

SECOND TABLE.

"Ellen, wife of the afsd. William Forde, left the use of 30 pounds yearly for the use of a schoolmaster.—And the use of 30 pounds yearly, for ever, to the use of the poor householders, to be dealt at the discretion of the aforesaid William Forde's heires.

"Sir John Bowyer, Knight and Baronet, left 3 pounds, the interest whereof is yearly to be dealt in bread.

"Mr. Josiah Keeling, late of Milton, left in the hands of Benjamin Meare and Elizabeth Edwards, his exors., the sum of 12 pounds, the interest whereof to be laid out in bread, to be distributed amongst the poor of the parish publicly in the church, every first Sunday in the month yearly, for ever, at the discretion of Benjamin Meare afsd.

"Hugh Forde, of Forde Green, did, in his life-time, give the furthermost pew, situated in the north end of the gallery, and all the sitting in the arch in the wall, in the middle part of the gallery, for the use of the poore inhabitants of this parish for ever."

In all probability, when the old church at Norton was first built, if there was then a west gallery, the poor claimed seats therein as a right, and had no need of such bequest as the last, for we frequently find in ancient churches the west gallery appropriated to children, servants, and the poor; and on some future occasion I may submit to your readers a few conjectures of the reasons which induced our ancestors to select such portion of the temple as most appropriate to their condition.

There are no monuments in the church, and but few remarkable inscriptions in the churchyard. The following affords an instance of longevity:

"Here lie the remains of Samuel Mountford, of Norton Green, who died Feb. y^e^ 12th, 1776, aged 93."

Near to the above, on the south-west side of the churchyard, is a plain headstone, to the memory of Joseph Snape, Yeoman, of Annat's-house, in this parish, who died December 26, 1788, aged 73. . . .

The living is at present a chapel-of-ease to Stoke-upon-Trent; but, by an Act of Parliament passed eight or ten years ago upon the death, cession, or other voidance of the present incumbent, it becomes a rectory; and, in addition to its present emoluments (except £50 a year, now allowed by the Rector of Stoke) will be endowed with all the great and small tithes of the township of Norton, which at present belong to the Rector of Stoke.

The following list of incumbents and ministers is extracted from the Parish Registers:

John Whelok, Minister, 1606.
Wm. Barrett, Curate, 1611.
John Fletcher, Minister, 1621.
Geo. Nicholson, Minister, 1621.
Humphridus Repton, Curans, 1660.
John Repton, Minister, 1699.
Timothy Keene, Minister, 1743.
Jonathan Clowes, Minister, 1759.
Thos. Middleton, Minister, 1769.
Dan. Turner, A.B., who is the present Incumbent, 1776.

Several excommunications are recorded in the register in the time of the Rev. J. Repton, which are rare occurrences in the present state of church discipline.

There are three meeting-houses for Dissenters in this parish, the largest of which is in the village of Norton.

Dr. Plot (ch. ix. § 8) records a singular custom, which formerly was observed in this county, in felling oak-trees, and stripping the bark, and which he first noticed in this parish. After observing that timber in this country grew to as vast a bigness as in any part of England, he says:

"In the felling whereof [oak timber] they have this very good custom, that they flaw it standing about the beginning or middle of May, which I first observed in some fences near Norton in the Moores, Milton, Badiley, etc., where there were several oaks stood naked, divested of their bark, which they told me would not be fell'd till Michaelmass following at soonest, or perhaps not till mid-winter, or the ensuing spring; which I take to be a way of so valuable a consideration, that perhaps it may deserve the debate of a Parliament, whether it might not be worth while to inforce this custome to be strictly observed all over the Nation? for, tho' by a reserve in the Act for due felling oaken timber, it may be done at any time for building or repairing houses, ships, and mills; yet for any other uses none may fell it (in consideration of the tan) where bark is worth but two shillings per load, over and above the charges of barking and pilling, but between the first of April and last of June,* when the sap is up, and the bark will run; which causes the outside of the timber to rott away quickly, and to grow worm-eaten: whereas these being fell'd in or near the winter, and having stood naked all the summer drying in the sun, become in a manner as hard and sound without as within, being as it were all heart, and not so subject to worms: by which means there would be a great deal of good timber saved, and no other could be used; nor would the use of the bark be lost to the tanner, as I suppose is presumed in the present act it would, should it have admitted felling oakes in the winter season, when the bark will not run." W. S.

* Jos. Keble's "Statutes at Large," an. 1 Jac. I., chap. xxii., § 20.

Pelsall.

[1799, *Part II., p.* 836.]

The following letters are in front of a house at Pelsal, near Walsall, sunk in the brick-work; and I should be obliged by an explanation: "VT . TIBI SIC : APIS An'o Dom'i TH . 1687." J. G.

Penkridge.

[1822, *Part II., pp.* 592-594.]

The church of Penkridge *olim* Pencriz, in Staffordshire, is mentioned in the charter of King Stephen and the Bull of Pope Lucius as given to the bishop and churches of Coventry and Lichfield, in the same manner with Wolverhampton and Stafford, which were notoriously royal free chapels or colleges, which makes it probable that this of Pencris might be of the same nature. The advowson of the church and the manor were granted by one Hugh House to the Archbishop of Dublin and his successors, which gift was confirmed by King John, anno regni 17. And in process of time that archbishop was always dean of this church, and had the collation of all the prebendaries, who were thirteen in number, about 26 Henry VIII., when they were valued at £106 15s.*

The grant of King John to the Archbishop of Dublin bears date September 13, 1206, and is done away by the 1st Edward VI., 1547, by which Act colleges and chantries were vested in the crown.

In Prynne's "Papal Usurpations," vol. ii., No. 728, 33 Hen. III., "Petitio Canonicorum et Vicariorum de Penchriz liberæ Capellæ Regiæ cancellario regis contra gravamina S. de Wymer. 41 Hen. III., 28 Edw. I. m. 14, quod Canonici de Penchriz obediant Archiepisc. Dublin tanquam Decano suo."

This was all that this John House did, as far as appears from King John's charter, which makes no mention how this church came to be endowed and became collegiate. Here was some foundation before the Conquest. For "in Pancriz tenent ix clerici de rege unam hidam, terra est iv carucarum," Domesday, Staffordscire, as Hemming, vol. i., p. 432; and it seems to have been Collegiate temp. Hen. II. when it lost Canok. And it undoubtedly was so 20 Edw. I. For in Lincoln taxation, Dioc. Lich. et Cov. Dec. Stafford, "Ecclesia de Penkris appropriata decano et capitulo ejusdem, quæ est Capella dom. regis, valet 67 marc." In the time of King Edw. III. (*vide* Newcourt, vol. i., p. 339) that king gave to John de St. Paul the prebend of St. Michael in the free chapel of Pencrick, December 6, 1337; and p. 199, that he protected Wm. de Killesley in the prebend

* See Plot's "History of Staffordshire." The Charter of King John, and the old taxation of the prebends and offices in the exempt Church and Jurisdiction out of the Black Book in the Archbishop of Dublin's Registry.

of Cauk (perhaps, rather, Cank) in the chapel of Pencrich. The church [a view of which was drawn and engraved by T. Donaldson for Shaw's "History of Staffordshire," but never published] is dedicated to St. Michael, and at the dissolution was granted, 2 Edw. VI., to John Earl of Warwick, and 4 and 5 Phil. and Mary, to Wm. Riggs and Wm. Buckbird. Penkridge Church is a large handsome fabric of stone, in the Gothic style of architecture; the general exterior appearance is magnificent, the walls being ornamented with small pinnacles and battlements, and contains the following monumental memorials, etc.:

On the south side, on a neat mural white tablet:

"In a vault, near this place, rest, with those of his ancestors, the remains of Sir Edw. Littleton, Baronet, of Teddesley Park, in the county of Stafford, who was born June 30th, 1727, and died May 17th, 1812, aged 84 years. He was elected seven times to represent this, his native county, in Parliament, a trust terminating only with his life, and the duties of which he discharged with inflexible integrity and independence. He married Francis, daughter of Christopher Horton, Esq., of Catton, in the county of Derby, who died Aug. 29th, 1781, without issue, and lies interred in the same vault."

In the Chancel.

On a large handsome mural monument on the north side, 14 feet high and 8 feet 6 inches wide:

"Reader, 'twas thought enough upon the tombe
Of that great Captain, th' enemy of Rome,
To write no more but [here lies Hannibal];
Let this suffice thee then instead of all,
Here lye two knights, y^e^ Father and y^e^ Sonne,
Sir Edward, and Sir Edward Littleton."

On the south-east side:

"In memory of Sir Edward Littleton, of Pileton, Bart., who married Mary, only daughter of Sir Rich. Hoare, Knight, Lord Mayor of London, by whom he had no issue. He was humane, hospitable and religious; free from pride, ambition and hypocrisy. In him we admired, and now lament, the good Landlord, indulgent Master, sincere Friend and affectionate Husband, and a true friend of his country. Born 1676; died 2nd Jan., 1741."

On the south side:

"Near this place are interred the remains of Hyacinth Gabrielle, wie of the most noble Richard Marquiss Wellesley, Knight of the Garter, &c., &c. She was a native of France; and departed this life at Teddesley, the seat of her son-in-law, Edw. John Littleton, Esq., on the 5th Nov., 1816. Her afflicted children have inscribed this memorial of their respect and gratitude for the virtues of the best of mothers."

Perpetual curates of Penkridge:
James Reddings.
Nathaniel Hyde
John Peploe.
Thomas Perry.

James Stafford, M.A., and official.
Richard Slaney, M.A., and official.

This Free Royal Chapel has within its jurisdiction four chapels: Dunstan, Coppenhall, Shareshill, and Stretton. Here is a charity school for twelve boys and eight girls.

In 1819 two excellent schoolrooms for the children of this and the neighbouring parishes, and a house for the master and mistress, were built by E. J. Littleton, Esq., M.P. The schools are on the Madras system, and the whole of the expense defrayed by him.

According to the Parliamentary returns of the population in 1821, the parish of Penkridge contained 1,136 males and 1,166 females—total of person, 2,302. P.

Pilaton.

[1789, *Part II., pp.* 1078, 1079.]

The ancient mansion called Pilaton Hall has been the residence for several generations of the respectable family of the Littleton baronets; at present it is occupied in part only by a farmer, the worthy descendant, Sir Edward Littleton, having erected a new habitation at Tiddesley Park. . . .

Pilaton Hall, it is said, will soon be so far demolished as to reduce it to a mere farmhouse. . . . The hall, which is spacious, fills the mind with those fixed ideas we entertain of ancient hospitality. The lengthened oaken table, strongly supported, having carried many a load of substantial food, and exhilarating, healthful liquor; the arched stone chimney, where logs of solid oak have cheerfully blazed; the butler's pantry, etc., near at hand, are all standing marks of convivial mirth and good old cheer. The wainscot in carved panels, projecting heads with long beards* and jocund faces, or in merry attitudes, plainly announce the spirit and disposition of those times; but it seems all this was tempered with wisdom, prudence, and morality—"Be merry and wise"—for over the great chimney I perceived these words, "Jesus Marcy," the letters not Gothic, but formed of flowers and scroll-work. The windows are at this day filled with painted glass, and consist of subjects from the Old and New Testament; designations of the twelve calendar months, representing the produce and various employments of each season, and over them, in distinct compartments, the twelve signs of the Zodiac. These are comprised in circular panes; others of the same form appear to be composed in emblematical devices not easily understood, one of them especially, and remarkable for its singularity, which represents a man crowned, with his legs in the stocks. There

* "'Tis merry in the hall,
When beards wag all."—*Old Proverb.*

are many more detached pieces, dispersed in the windows of the house, too numerous for particular description in the narrow compass of this letter. I shall therefore at present confine myself to one piece only which is near the kitchen, and translated thither, no doubt, from the chapel, now in ruins, together with all the rest that are upon religious subjects. The drawing (Plate III., Fig. 1) is an exact facsimile, the veil black, with a yellow border curiously embroidered, the dress in beautiful colours with ermine; underneath these words:

"Sta Modwyna ora p me."

Below this, on the dexter side, a group of male figures, kneeling and praying; on the left, the same number of females in the like attitude, all of them with frontals, or bandeaux, round the head. The name being preserved, there can be no mistake. Without so sure a mark it might have remained unknown, for I do not remember ever to have seen a picture or any other representation of this saint.* . . .

St. Modwena led, during seven years, an anchoritical life on an isle in the Trent, which was called Andresey, from the Apostle St. Andrew, in whose honour she procured her oratory to be dedicated. When the great abbey of Burton-upon-Trent was founded, in 1004, it was dedicated, under the patronage of St. Mary and St. Modwena, and was enriched with the relics of this saint, from whom Leland calls it Modpenetop.

Pilaton is a hamlet in the parish of Penkrich, or Penkridge, which last is a deanery in the diocese of Dublin. Probably for this reason the chapel at Pilaton was dedicated to St. Modwena, as well as on account of its vicinity to Burton, where she was at that time in great veneration. OBSERVATOR.

Rowley.

[1812, *Part II., p.* 513.]

I have enclosed you a sketch (see Plate II.) of a quarry from whence the Rowley ragstone is taken. . . . The situation of the quarry is at the top of a hill, and nearly equidistant from Dudley, Rowley Regis, and Oldbury, not quite one mile and a half from the nearest of those places. . . . The hailstone, which is also a rock of Rowley ragstone, mentioned by Dr. Plot in his "History of Staffordshire," is to the south of this quarry, distant nearly one mile. The height of some of the columns represented in this sketch are from 16 to 18 feet, and the longest joints of the stone are from 3 feet

* For an account of St. Modwena see Camden, vol. ii., p. 377, and Dugdale's "Warwickshire," art. Polesworth.

3 inches to 3 feet 9 inches. The upper and under surface of the joints is usually flat. I have represented the outline of some of these surfaces, to show their angular form, in a separate compartment. Their diameters are as follow: The stone A is 9 inches; the stone B, 14 inches; C, 13 inches; D, 15 inches; F, 9 inches; at E is only the part of a stone. It corresponds with E in the sketch. It is 30 inches in diameter, and a part of its body hid by other columns prevented my observing the shape of its other angles.

Descending the hill, and not half a mile distant, is another quarry of the same kind of stone, the level of which is more than 100 feet below the former. This quarry presents columns on a much larger scale. Some of them appeared to me to be about 2 or 3 yards in diameter, more or less, as I did not measure them. They did not appear so regular as those in the upper quarry, which perhaps may be owing to the want of a sufficient excavation to display their lengths. This may lead one to suppose, with reference to the columns at E, that they increase in magnitude as they approach the base of the hill; but this is mere conjecture. The exterior colour of the columns is of light-brown; but when broken the inside of the stone is of gray, or nearly black, and of a close, compact body.

T. H.

Rushall.

[1799, *Part II.*, *p.* 921.]

Rushall Church (Plate I.) is situated about half a mile from Walsall, adjacent to Rushall Hall, for which it might originally have been erected as a chapel, but is now a parish church, very near a mile from the village of that name, which is supposed to have been formerly a part of Walsall parish. The parish has an annual gift at Christmas to every individual of 1d. each, which is delivered at Rushall, by order of the Mayor and Corporation of Walsall, as well as at the latter place. The inside of this church wants to be new paved. There are no monuments, but two mural ones of modern erection to the memory of the Rev. Mr. Rann and Henry Brown, gent. There are a number of lofty fir-trees in the churchyard, and some good tombs.

AMICUS.

Shareshill.

[1786, *Part I.*, *pp.* 408, 409.]

Shareshill, or Shashill, is a village in the county of Stafford, belonging to the deanery of Penkridge, about two miles distant from Cannock. At the north and south entrance to this place are seen two square entrenchments, the area of the largest about 1 rood; they are generally supposed to have been Roman encampments, which

their proximity to the Watling Street road seems to favour. I cannot, however, join in this opinion, being rather inclined to believe they are the remains of the site of two principal mansions anciently moated round; for at some little distance I observed a large and venerable farmhouse, having a moat surrounding it, partly filled with water, to this day. I mention this as a caution not to think every ditch, hillock, or mound one meets with Roman or Saxon *vestigia*. I visited the church, the body whereof was rebuilt about forty years ago; only the tower, which is of a very old date, is yet standing. Few of the monuments were preserved from the old church: I shall take notice of one, which, from the singularity of the figures and situation, deserves attention.

There are two figures, finely executed in alabaster, with colours and gilt borders, of a man and woman; the man in armour, with a chain pendant from the neck, having at the end the cross of Malta, ✠; the woman in a rich and elegant attire, her head not reclined on a cushion, as in the other, but purposely designed thus by the sculptor, for what reason it is hard to guess, unless we suppose that her husband, being engaged in the Crusades, or some distant and long service, he meant to express her uneasiness thereat and her restless life. It is a Divine command—"Let no man put asunder those whom God hath joined." This is good in life, but no way obligatory after death. In short, these two figures, after being conjoined on one stone for perhaps 300 or 400 years, were obliged to be sawed asunder and separated, he lying in the recess of a north window, and she in one on the south, opposite.

A gentleman in the neighbourhood informed me these figures were taken from a monument erected for one of the family name of Swinnerton.

Inscriptions on the bells:

Treble: "Cantate Domino canticum novum."
Tenor: "Gloria et honor fit semper Deo in excelsis."

Great Sardon, which is a member of this parish, had once a chapel, long since decayed. The only thing remarkable at this place is a Roman tumulus, or barrow, situate on very high ground facing the street-way, from which it is distant only a quarter of a mile.

Little Sardon is united with the other, having nothing worthy of notice except a great number of very old and large yew-trees, which are frequent hereabouts and in many parts of Staffordshire. These were of great use formerly, when bows and arrows served for weapons of defence, and for that purpose generally planted in churchyards, as a security to the public for making their bows. The notion that the leaves are pernicious to cattle has greatly contributed to their almost general eradication.

Sir Edward Lyttelton, Bart., the lord of this manor, has a considerable property in this parish and the impropriate tithes.

The great Staffordshire Canal passes through this parish and over Calf Heath, which is contiguous to Sardon Magna. About half a mile from this last mentioned place is a very old and formerly much noted inn, called The Four Crosses, the arms of the see of Lichfield. Dean Swift, as the story goes, resting at this inn on his journey to Ireland, the landlady at that time being a notorious scold, and he not liking his accommodation, wrote the following distich on a window:

"Thou fool! to hang 4 crosses at thy door!
Hang up thy wife, there needs not any more."

Deeply cut in one of the wooden lintels over the door of this house on the outside is the following sentence:

"Fleres si scires
VN . TV . TEMP . MENS.
Rides
cum non sit forsitan
VNA DIES."

A very good monition, truly. . . . The form of the letters shows it to have been of long standing.

At a place called Foume, or Foulmere, near Cannock Wood, about a mile from the Four Crosses, an aromatic shrub of the myrtle kind grows spontaneously. It is called gale, or sweet gale, and gives name to a small hamlet near it. Where it flourishes is a black morassy ground between two copses, greatly sheltered from the bleak winds, which no doubt contributes greatly to its safety. It thrives not anywhere else, and seems confined to this small spot of a few acres. . . .

Adjoining to Shareshill, eastward, is Hilton, the seat of — Vernon, Esq.: this was anciently a religious house; and on the south Moseley, where King Charles II. was secreted from the fury of his enemies. OBSERVATOR.

[1786, *Part II., p.* 822.]

Observator, describing the Four Cross Inn at Sardon Magna, in Staffordshire, says, "I cannot omit a moral sentence deeply cut in one of the wooden lintels over the door of this house on the outside, 'Fleres si scires,'" etc., which he truly calls "a very good monition, though perhaps little attended to or understood by most of the travellers that way." We are certainly obliged to your ingenious correspondent for the transcript; but he has left it, as he found it, in so uncouth and abbreviated a form that it cannot be intelligible to

any but a literate traveller. To supply the deficiency, I subjoin the distich in its proper shape, with a manuscript translation which I lately met with on the blank leaf of a very small old edition of Thomas à Kempis' "De Imitatione Christi," now in my possession.

"Fleres, si scires Unum tua Tempora Mensem;
Rides, cum non sit forsitan una Dies."

"You'd weep and cry,
If sure to die
Before one Month were past:
And yet you play,
And sport away
This one poor day,
Though it may prove your last."

REVISOR.

[1789, *Part II., p.* 1187.]

Plate II., Fig. 7, is a drawing which I lately made of a curious old yew-tree now standing in the enclosures of Sardon, in the county of Stafford. AN AMERICAN.

Stafford.

[1795, *Part I., p.* 369.]

The enclosed is copied (rather imperfectly) from a drawing designed for a town hall and courts of justice for the town of Stafford, but not adopted. . . . BLAKENEY.

References to ground plan (Plate I.).

A, Common Hall.

B, Courts of Justice.—No. 1 is the table; 2, the judge's seat; 3, 3, 3, are the seats for counsel; 4, is the box for jury; 6, is the box for the prisoners; 7, 7, are doors for the judge, jury, counsel, and witnesses to enter without being crowded by the spectators; 8, 8, are places for the spectators to stand; also over 8, 8, are galleries for spectators.

C is the room for the mayor or sitting magistrate to attend daily.

D D are two rooms which open in front by three large arched doors, to be used as poll-booths at the time of elections.

E E, entrances to the common hall.

F, staircase leading to two galleries (G G) over the passages (E E), which galleries communicate with the galleries over the courts, and also with three large chambers over D D, which are for the grand jury and committee rooms.

[1802, *Part II., p.* 1095.]

On passing by St. Mary's Church, in Stafford, when persons were removing the foundation of the old church this summer, used of late as a school, the workmen informed me they had found above a peck

of old copper coins, some few square ones; the enclosed two were taken up in my presence. G. WAINWRIGHT.

*** If all the coins found in the above discovery are of the same sort as the two Mr. W. has sent, they are nothing but common Flemish jettons, which were used principally as counters at cards.

[1844, *Part II., p.* 18.]

Erdeswicke, the old historian of Staffordshire, says of the county town: "The town hath been walled (as I take it) round about, whereof some part remains, and the rest sheweth by the ruins where they have been; and there hath been also a castle within the town, but now it is quite decayed.

"The castle, which now stands on the south side, and is half a mile or more from the town, hath and doth belong to the Earls and Barons of Stafford. The said castle that now is was builded by Raufe, first Earl of Stafford, as the report is, and not unlike to be true; and yet I have a certain deed dated 'apud castrum juxta Stafford,' long before the said Raphe lived, so that it would seem that Raufe, Earl of Stafford, did but re-edify the said castle, and not build it."

Dr. Plot's account is somewhat different. He says:

"The earliest authentic account of Stafford is of the year 913, when Elfleda, sister to Edward the Elder, and Countess of Mercia, built a castle there, but the site of it is not now known. ('Saxon Chron.,' p. 104.) Another was founded by William the Conqueror on an insulated hill near the town, and was given in custody to Robert de Toeni, who assumed the name of de Stadford, and was the progenitor of the illustrious family of Stafford. This castle was garrisoned by King Charles I., but was taken by the Parliamentary forces and demolished in 1644."

Mr. Clifford, the historian of Tixal (in 1817), says:

"About thirty years ago nothing of the castle remained visible but a solitary fragment of wall which the late Sir William Jerningham underbuilt to prevent it from falling. Some workmen being employed to search for an ancient wall, discovered that all the basement story of the castle (keep) lay buried under the ruins of the upper parts. Sir William Jerningham immediately ordered the whole to be excavated and cleared of the rubbish, so that the curious traveller may now explore every part of it, and contemplate at his leisure the form and extent of a fortress or baronial castle in the time of the Conqueror.

"Sir George Jerningham, son of Sir William, has undertaken to build the castle on its old foundations, and has already completed one front, flanked by two octagonal towers, in a very elegant castellated style."

So far the historian. Sir George Jerningham, who was summoned to Parliament as Baron Stafford of Stafford Castle in 1824, completed only this front. In the tower are deposited some armour and other curiosities. The ancient well (160 feet deep) of the castle, a little distance from the north-east angle of the keep, was discovered in 1819 by preparations for planting. It was covered with oak planks under 3 feet of soil or rubbish; the water is good and abundant. No search has been made for the outworks of the castle, the foundations of which no doubt remain, and probably included Castle Church.

The artificial mount on which the castle stands is of an oblong form, measuring 105 feet by 50 feet. The walls are 12 feet high and 8 feet in thickness. J. W.

Stoke-upon-Trent.

[1830, *Part I., pp.* 583, 584.]

Allow me to notice the erection of a beautiful eastern window of stained glass in the new church at Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire. . . .

The principal compartments of the window contain fifteen well-proportioned figures (inserted within ovals) of the Apostles and Evangelists, each bearing their appropriate insignia, and having beneath, on a label, their respective names inscribed in Latin. In the centre of the Evangelists, at the base of the window, is a bold figure of the saint to whom the church is dedicated, Peter, bearing his symbol of the keys, and, though loaded with chains, his spirited attitude and countenance seem to bespeak glory in bonds, imprisonment, and even death, for the glorious cause in which he was engaged.

The arch of the window is filled with ornamental designs in brilliant colouring, among which, near the apex, are two quatrefoils, containing the arms of the see of Lichfield, and those of the dean.

The general effect of this rich collection of glass is truly great, increased as it is by the peculiar mellowness of the tints, whilst the rich reflection of the storied fane, shedding

"The dim blaze of radiance richly clear,"

has spread an air of new solemnity and inspiration throughout the sacred edifice; and since the general execution is creditable to the abilities of the artist, Mr. David Evans, of Shrewsbury, it is to be desired it may remain a memorial to subsequent generations of the liberality of the Very Rev. the Dean of Lichfield, who is rector of the parish, and by whose munificence the window is erected.

Whilst upon the subject, I would also mention that the dean has likewise given the sum of £3,000, to be invested in the names of trustees, as a permanent endowment for the national schools at

Stoke, Hanley, Lane End, Shelton, and Longton, within the same parish, besides handsome donations to the new church and other charitable purposes, making an aggregate of £10,000.

The old parish church having become ruinous, and too small to accommodate the increasing population of the neighbourhood, it was determined to erect a new one as near the site of the old building as a regard for previous inhumations would permit, which undertaking was commenced in 1826, and is now completed in the modern Gothic style, and at an expense of about £14,000, being 130 feet in length and 61 feet in width, and calculated to accommodate a congregation of 1,672 persons, and when the organ, bells, etc., are ready will receive immediate consecration.

The burial-ground has also been enlarged to the extent of 5 acres, and by the addition of 20,000 cubic yards of soil has been raised so as to place it out of the reach of floods, to which it was previously liable. H. P.

Stone.

[1770, *p.* 221.]

I have sent you an exact drawing of a piece of oak plank, 12 inches square, which was part of the roof of Stone Church, in Staffordshire. The characters are rudely cut, but evidently show the time of the church's erection. At the time it was taken down, in order to be rebuilt, this piece of antiquity fell into the hands of my worthy friend the Rev. Mr. Lovatt, now Rector of Sandon, who kindly added it to my collection. RICH. GREENE.

Tamworth.

[1790, *Part I.*, *p.* 295.]

The enclosed view of Tamworth was, some few years since, drawn on the spot by Mr. Williams, an eminent portrait-painter. It has since been finished and reduced to its present size by Mr. E. Stringer, a painter of Lichfield. As this view has never yet been published, I have taken the liberty of sending it to you, in hopes you may think it worthy a place in your valuable magazine. . . .

A south view of the castle only was published by Messrs. Buck about fifty years since. It has undergone some few alterations since that period; but the present drawing is a faithful representation of its condition in the year 1780.

THOMAS WEBB GREENE.

This view includes the church and the summit of the town-hall, with the fulling mills and principal inn, and is taken from the foot of Lady Bridge.

[1813, *Part I., pp.* 592, 593.]

The principal feature in the castle of Tamworth is a large mound which stands between the town and the river Team, upon the right bank, and immediately above the bridge. The works of the castle are of no very great extent, and include only the mound, its ditches, and a raised platform towards the river. In the river, opposite to this platform, is an island occupied by the castle mill.

The top of the mound is crowned by a low wall, which supports a terrace or platform. Within this rises an inner wall of greater height, crowned in parts by a battlement, and in parts carried up to form the wall of the internal buildings. The plan of these walls is an irregular circle. Upon the inner wall, at the eastern side, and extending beyond the terrace, is a square tower, which rises directly from the mound, and from its height forms a principal feature in the works of the castle. From this tower a very thick low curtain wall extends down the side of the mound, across the ditch, towards the upper gate-house. The northern face is carried up to form a battlement for the landward defence, and the remaining thickness of this wall is occupied by a broad walk, the only approach to the buildings of the mound. This curtain wall has several bands of herring-bone work in its structure, and is therefore probably very early Norman. The tower also has the flat Norman pilaster, and is probably of the same age. The concentric walls are so defaced by buttresses and similar additions that their date cannot exactly be ascertained. If not actually Norman, they are probably built upon Norman foundations.

The inner wall forms a court. Within it, and connected with the wall, are two large piles of building, of which one is comparatively modern, of the date of James or Elizabeth. The other, though certainly much older, is so altered and disguised that it is difficult to ascertain its date. The great chamber, though dark, is a particularly fine example of the old baronial hall. The roof, of timber, springs almost from the floor; it is rude and heavy, but has a fine appearance. The whole of this part of the building is utterly disfurnished, and has a most desolate appearance. Two of the chambers in the later buildings are panelled in oak, with large windows and carved fire-place, and have a handsome appearance. The upper row of panels are emblazoned with the pedigree and matches of the various lords of the castle of the Marmion, Freville, Ferrers, and Townshend lines, with a shield of arms upon each panel. There is a well in the mound between 2 and 3 feet in diameter.

The base of the mound is encircled on the landward two-thirds by a deep moat, which, however, being above the level of the river, was probably always, as now, dry.

The only remaining work, exterior to the moat, is a part of a gate-house, east of the mound, in which the cross curtain terminates.

This gate-house, though certainly old, is so imperfect and so much altered that its date is scarcely to be ascertained. There is a second gate-house in the opposite direction at the foot of the bridge. This is entirely modern, but possibly upon an old site.

There are no distinct traces of any masonry between the mound and the river, but the platform terminates abruptly towards the river in a sort of step, which no doubt marks the line of the old wall.

The remains of this castle are chiefly interesting from the light they promise to throw upon the date of the mound, so common a feature in the Norman castles.

It is quite clear, in the first place, that the mound is wholly artificial; and secondly, that it would not bear a tower similar to that which rises from it, for at least half a century after its construction, if at all. But the present tower and its well are certainly early Norman, so that either the mound is older than the Conquest, or the buildings rise through it from the original surface of the ground. The latter point it would be easy at a trifling expense to ascertain. The writer believes this to be a very rare, if not a solitary, example, of a heavy Norman tower appearing at the summit of an artificial mound.*

The situation of the castle is well chosen. It commands both the town and the passage of the river, here a deep and very broad stream.

Into the history of the castle it is not necessary here to enter. . . . It is the seat of a very ancient barony and of a very illustrious race; but its modern fame is due rather to its mention in the pages of "Marmion" and its connection with the fictitious hero of this poem. Such is the power of genius. C.

[1784, *Part II., p.* 501.]

The old castle at Tamworth has been very accurately described in Dugdale's "History of Warwickshire." I remember, some few years ago, on visiting this curious remain of ancient grandeur, to have observed in the great hall the two gigantic figures painted on the wall in fresco, as mentioned by Dugdale, under which were written, "Sir Lancelot de Lake, and Sir Tarqvin." These, however, were almost obliterated by the wall having been injudiciously white-washed by some enemy to antiquity, and I could but just discern the figures and writing.† On viewing these premises last year, I no

* Matthew, of Westminster, attributes the mound to the Saxon Ethelfleda anno 914. This is very possible, but the early authors are not generally to be trusted upon matters of this nature.—See Dugdale, "Warwickshire," ed. 1656, p. 817.

† Tamworth Castle was once held by the service of being king's champion at the coronation. Query, when was it removed to Scrivelby?

longer saw the least trace of them, the wall having been once more bedaubed with whiting, at the same time lamenting that the owners or stewards of places like these should have so little taste as to destroy what has any relation to history and antiquity. This has been the case in what is called Our Lady's Chapel at St. Mary's Church, in Warwick, where a very curious and large painting on the wall in fresco, representing the Last Judgment, has within these very few years been done away in the same ill-natured manner as at Tamworth; and what raised my indignation still more at this last-mentioned place was the seeing some workmen busily employed in breaking to pieces and taking away the old stained glass, full of armory and historical figures, to substitute in its room the unmeaning, though perhaps more modern, crown glass. . . .

But to return to Tamworth: I herewith send you an inscription, not mentioned by Dugdale, which is round an octangular table, the words cut very deep in the solid oak:

"✠ PRAYSE AND GLORY AND WYSDOME AND THANKS AND HONOR AND POWERE AND MYGHT BE VNTO OVRE————————MEN., 1564."

Some words at the end are wanting, that part of the table being broken and lost; the date, however, is fortunately preserved. In the middle of the table is a horse-shoe, with the arms of Ferrars.

OBSERVATOR.

[1846, *Part II., pp.* 261-263.]

Having some years ago made an examination of the stairs in the tower of Tamworth church, and having lately found from the new and very creditable history of Tamworth* that their construction is not commonly understood, I shall endeavour to explain their peculiarities in detail, and to show that the popular diagram of them which is given in Plot's "Natural History of Staffordshire," plate 32, figure 4, has reference to the main principle of the shaft at Dover rather than to that which it was designed to illustrate.

Premising, then, that the stairs in the tower of Tamworth church, built probably during the fifteenth century, have been restored within the last two or three years, their chief peculiarity consists in this; that, being double, or two in number, they are contained within a space a little more than six feet in diameter, and are so contrived that the floor of one forms the roof of the other, at the same time that they have one and the same newel, with two distinct passages around it, and one common landing from two separate entrances.

These entrances are an outer one and an inner one, the outer

* "The History of the Town and Castle of Tamworth," by C. F. Palmer. Tamworth: Thompson.

entrance leading from the churchyard to a landing on the roof of the church, and the inner entrance from the vestibule of the church to the same landing; while all the parts of the stairs, ending in a dome, constitute what is correctly named a cochlea, and hereby evidence a curious similarity to the plan of the cochlea, so called, of the human ear. For this is also remarkable for having two distinct winding passages; one of which is known as that of a vestibule or inner part, and the other as that of a drum, or outer part; while both winding round the same newel have the same termination in a dome from two separate entrances. Their newel, however, is hollow; and their passages are marked by folds and lines rather than by steps. Whereas the passages in the Tamworth example are effected by uniform steps, which in pairs on the same level are of this figure (see plate). That is, each being in its general form a wedge, to the smaller end of which a certain fulness is attached, two steps are cemented together on the same level at the place of this fulness; and by their union form so much of the newel of the staircase. But while the steps are all of uniform size, on either side, the parts of the newel vary in this respect; because by varying in length, their joinings vary, and the strength of the whole is consequently increased; the joints being broken, as the phrase is.

It may be observed, by the figure here given, that one line of the step is drawn straight from the greater end of it toward the centre of the newel, and the other to a little distance from this point. The former, then, is the exposed edge and face of the step; the other being, when in place, covered by the step above it. The curve at the end corresponds to that of the inside of the wall of the tower; the larger end being let into the wall, while the lower surface of the step between the wall and the newel is cut off corner-wise from back to front, so as to leave a sufficient bearing in front on the step below it, and yet increase the head-room of the passage which it covers. For the steps by their continued turning in opposite directions produce a covered passage on either side in a manner difficult to explain by mere diagram, although attempted in the following figure (see plate).

Thus two opposite doors are seen to lead to distinct passages; and these passages continuing distinct, two persons by means of them may, at the same time, reach the same point, without seeing one another until they have nearly reached it; which being the case within so small a compass, each step is, of necessity, a deep one, for the purpose of affording head-room, as the accompanying section of the staircase may show; the only fault in the illustration being the smallness of the figures and the want of a newel between the passages.

Now, in contrast to this plan, the stairs of the shaft at Dover wind round an open well, instead of a solid newel; so that, being three in

number, the space which they occupy is unavoidably much greater than that occupied by the stairs of a church tower; while, if a well of the kind were large enough, the stairs surrounding it might be increased to any number, and the steps made of any required size and depth, as the annexed figure may render apparent.

It must thus be evident that the usual illustration of different and unconnected bands wound spirally round a bottle, and taken each to represent a distinct passage, is more calculated to explain the Dover than the Tamworth construction; this latter being much better and more easily illustrated by placing over one another three or four table-knives in such a manner as that, while they twist on one another from the centre, the handles form one series of steps in one direction, and the blades another series in another direction; the experiment being "suited to the meanest capacity." AMELES.

Tettenhall.

[1796, *Part II., p.* 633.]

I have sent you a sketch of Tettenhall church, in Staffordshire, with a distant view of Wolverhampton, as it appears from the churchyard.

The village of Tettenhall is delightfully situated on the slope of a hill, which begins a ltttle north of the church. From a gentle eminence it gradually swells into a lofty hill, and, running through the village in a south direction, it finishes at a considerable waste called Tettenhall Wood, the summit of which commands a delightful prospect of Wolverhampton and the adjacent country. There is no tradition respecting the foundation of the venerable old church in this place; but it is generally supposed to be one of the oldest in the kingdom. There are several handsome houses in Tettenhall, with an agreeable intermixture of romantic precipices and shady walks, particularly the lower green adjoining the great road from Wolverhampton to Salop. T. P.

[1842, *Part II., p.* 199.]

On removing the wash from the interior walls of the church of Tettenhall, near Wolverhampton, in the course of repairs now in progress, the workmen discovered that the walls had originally been painted with various devices, coats of arms, and it is supposed Scripture texts in old English characters; but nearly the whole was scraped off before any mention was made of the circumstance by the workmen, and consequently only small portions, and those very imperfect, remain to tantalise the research of the antiquary. The best specimen is seen in Lord Wrottesley's chancel, where the figures of three or four skeletons are tolerably perfect, probably the remains of a Dance of Death.

Tutbury.

[1785, *Part II.*, *p.* 617.]

The enclosed bill accidentally falling into my hands, I shall be greatly obliged to any of your antiquarian correspondents for their opinion of it. Unfortunately there is no date; but by the writing and spelling it seems to have been incurred by King James I. or Charles I. It will, however, serve to show the difference of the price of provisions between those and the present times.

RICHARD GREENE.

A note of such Chargis as I have bin at concerninge the King's Mag. Progresse at Tutbury, *etc.*

Inprimis, paid for malt . . . . . IIS.
Also paid for hops . . . . . IS.
Also paid for ould hay . . . . . IIIS. IIIId.
Also paid for three loade of wood kids . . . . . XIIS.
Also for carringe of three load of wood kids to Tutbury.
Also wee caried three load of hard wood, and it was turned upon us back agayne.
Also spent with goinge with the teames two times to Tutbury XVIIId.
Also paid for 60 lb. of sweete butter, at 4d. ob. a pound XXIIS. VId.
Also paid for carringe the butter to Burton, and mony that the spent that did carry it . . . . . XVId.
Also paid for five dozen of pigeons . . . . . XS.
Also spent in goinge two dayes to seeke for pigeons, beinge forthe all night, and carringe them to Burton . . . . IIS. IId.
Also paid unto two carriages that did help to remove the kings ma[ties] household to Tamworth.
Also spent in going with the teames to Tutbury, and afterwards to Tamworth, to see it delivered . . . . . IIS.
Also spent in going before the clarke of the verge of William Leeke and William Goodman . . . . . XVId.
Also spent in goinge to Burton to pay for malt, and hopps, and hay, and oats, and the rest of the things . . . . VId.
Also the first day of September spent in going to Burton to looke for the chargis which I had bin at concerninge the kings ma[ties] progresse . . . . . VId.
Also paid for five strike of oats . . . . XIS. VIIId.
Also paid for seekinge for the oats, and carringe them to Tutbury XVIIId.
Also paid for acquittances . . . . . VIIId.
Also paid more for acquittances . . . . . VIId.

Uttoxeter.

[1785, *Part I., p.* 426.]

I send you a slight sketch of a phenomenon (see the Plate, Fig. 9) seen at Uttoxeter on April 13 last, at ten minutes before five o'clock in the afternoon, and which lasted about fifteen minutes. There were three rainbows appeared together. But what was contrary to the common appearance of rainbows, which are frequently seen in the opposite horizon from the sun, they were all seen betwixt the spectators and the sun. The sky was rather cloudy, but without rain, and the plan of the sun could but just be discerned. The first bow, which exhibited about half a circle about the sun, had all the prismatic colours extremely vivid and bright. The second bow was inverted, with the last of the bow joining the first, and a portion of a larger circle, as in the drawing, and the colours fainter. The moon, which was then about a quarter old, could but just be seen, as in the drawing, and the whole made the most beautiful appearance I ever beheld, and a great number of people at Uttoxeter saw it at the same time with myself. S. BENTLEY.

Walsall.

[1792, *Part II., p.* 806.]

Fig. 3 in Plate II. is a drawing from a monument in Walsall Church. By the arms on the breast it appears to have been one of the Neviles, formerly lords of the manor. *Sed quære.*

[1792, *Part II., pp.* 902, 903.]

In 25 of Edward III. Sir Ralph Basset was lord; afterwards the family of Beauchamp, Earls of Warwick, were lords until the reign of Henry VI., when Richard Nevil (the great), Earl of Salisbury, married Ann, the daughter and heiress of Richard, last Earl of Warwick of the Beauchamp family, and the said Richard Nevil became lord of the manor, and also Earl of Warwick in right of his wife (his crest was the white bear and ragged staff). He was slain at Barnet in 1471. His daughter Isabel married George, Duke of Clarence, who became lord of the manor in right of his wife; their son, Richard Plantagenet, was Earl of Warwick and Salisbury, and he was beheaded in his youth by Henry VII., who seized on the manor. It was afterwards granted to Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, who was a descendant of the Beauchamps, and also nearly allied to the Crown, his great-grandmother being Ann, daughter of Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of Edward III. This nobleman was attainted of high treason, and beheaded 13 Henry VIII., and the manor was forfeited to the Crown.

Henry VIII. afterwards gave it to John Dudley, afterwards Duke

of Northumberland, who, for his attempt to set his daughter-in-law on the throne in opposition to Queen Mary, lost his head, and the manor once more reverted to the Crown.

Queen Mary soon after granted it to Richard Wilbraham, Esq., of Woodhey, in Cheshire; his grandson Richard was created a baronet by James I. The manor remained in this family till the death of Thomas, the last baronet; his daughter Mary married Richard Newport, Earl of Bradford, by which means it came into that family. This nobleman left three daughters, co-heiresses, one of whom (the Lady Diana) married Algernon Coote, Earl of Mountrath, and by him was mother to Charles Henry, Earl of Mountrath, the present lord of the manor of Walsall.

Arms of the Lords of the Manor.

Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick: Gules, a fess between six cross crosslets, or.

Nevil, Earl of Salisbury and Warwick: Gules, a saltire arg. a label of three, gobonné, arg. and az.

Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence: France and England quarterly, on a label of three points, as many cantons, gules.

Stafford, Duke of Buckingham: 1 and 4 quarterly, France and England, within a bordure, Arg. for Plantagenet; 2 and 3, Or, a chevron, gules, for Stafford.

Dudley, Duke of Northumberland: Or, a lion rampant, his tail forked, vert. armed and langued, gules.

Richard Wilbraham, Esq.: Arg. three wavy, az.

Newport, Earl of Bradford: Arg. a chevron, gules, between three leopards' faces, sable.

Coot, Earl of Mountrath: Arg. a chevron sable, between three coots, proper, *i.e.*, Sable, their beaks and legs, gules.

The font in Walsall Church is of alabaster, and very ancient; it is much like that at Debden in Essex, which was made at Coade's artificial stone manufactory in 1786. On the font of Walsall are eight shields of arms, some of which are not legible. One of them is Stafford and Beauchamp quarterly; another has a chevron between three owls (this is like the arms of Prescot in Guillim, and also like those of the present Sir Charles Burton); another, quarterly, 1 and 4, a chevron, a lion passant guardant in chief, 2 and 3, a fess, in chief three lozenges (this last is like the arms of Blewit); another, quarterly, — and —, a fleur-de-lis in the first, all within a bordure. . . .

Queen Mary founded a free Grammar School in this town, to teach Latin and English, and endowed the same with lands lying in this parish, and other lands at Tipton, near Dudley, which lands, I conjecture, had been part of the estate of John, Duke of

Northumberland, before mentioned, and I suppose the endowment of the school was previous to the grant of Walsall Manor to the Wilbrahams. JAMES GEE.

[1795, *Part I., p.* 281.]

Walsall (see Plate III.), is an ancient market and corporate town, finely situated on an eminence in the south-east borders of the county of Stafford, and in the south division of the hundred of Offlow, nine miles from Lichfield, six from Wolverhampton, and eight from Birmingham. Being tinged with the smoke of a manufacturing vicinity, it has always been looked upon with ignominy and contempt, but surely without just reason, at least if we may judge from its present appearance. Though it has hitherto been very imperfectly described and little noticed, it certainly deserves to be better known, for its lords have been some of the most eminent men in the kingdom, and its situation is peculiarly striking, on a bold eminence from the summit of which rises its fine old Gothic church and lofty spire, the streets and houses gradually descending on every side. However, it is not my intention to trouble you with an elaborate account of the ancient history or present state of Walsall, but only to accompany the engraving with a few necessary observations, chiefly confined to the church, a north-west view of which is here represented, as seen from the Wolverhampton Road, with that part of the town in which High Street, spacious and well built, gracefully winds into the vale below. Though there are no traces of Saxon architecture about this church, yet it is certainly a fabric of considerable antiquity, but much modernized in front by various repairs. The whole is a spacious and lofty building, rather singular in its appearance, being in the form of a cross, the transept of which is composed by large side chapels, whose roofs lie east and west, parallel to the body of the church. The tower, which is situated at the south-west angle of the west front, is strong, plain, and far from elegant, being built with coarse lime-stone, on which a new spire was erected since the year 1775, when a set of eight bells were put up by Mr. Rudhall, of Gloucester. Under the chancel is a remarkable archway of massy Gothic workmanship, which is only a common passage through the east part of the churchyard.

The internal dimensions of the church are as follows: length of the middle aisle, 92 feet, breadth, 22 feet 1 inch; south aisle, with the maid's chapel, length the same as the nave, breadth, 22 feet; St. Catharine's chapel, 27 feet long, and 17 feet 2 inches in breadth; north aisle, same length as the body, breadth, 20 feet 8 inches; St. Clement's chapel, 34 feet 8 inches in length, and 17 feet 2 inches in breadth; length of the chancel, 52½ feet, breadth, 19 feet. On each side of this chancel are eleven stalls, very entire, the seats of which being lifted up exhibit a series of grotesque figures curiously carved

in basso-relievo, no two of which are alike. Over the communion-table is a large painting representing the Last Supper. The arms of the Beauchamps, Hillarys, etc., formerly in the windows, are now no more, and the monuments belonging to the latter family, of which I have drawings, are either destroyed or hid by modern pews. Besides the coats before noticed by Mr. Gee on the old font, there are two still visible on the lower part of the pulpit, cut in stone, viz., 1. Beauchamp, impaling Ferrers; 2. Hillary. Here are spacious galleries, east, west, north, and south. In the east gallery is a good organ, built by Green of London, 1773. The old churchyard or cemetery being much too small for the parish, in 1756 a spacious piece of ground neatly walled round, on the south side of the town, was consecrated for the interment of the dead, and seems already very amply furnished. At an agreeable distance beyond this stands the neat old vicarage, where the present worthy incumbent, the Rev. Mr. Rutter, resides. It has been lately enlarged, rough cast, etc., and, being finely shaded with trees, is a delightful rural feature in the landscape, which when viewed from Warwick fields, north-west, or another eminence, north-east of the town, few places can exhibit the like scenery. S. Shaw, Jun.

[1798, *Part II.*, *p.* 848.]

I send you a drawing of Walsall Church (Plate II., Fig. 2), taken from a different spot from those of Mr. Shaw in 1795, since which time four sun-dials have been set up on the tower.

There is more of the church seen from the north-east than can be from any other point of view. J. Gee.

[1799, *Part II.*, *pp.* 763 764.]

The church at Walsall stands on a lofty hill, consisting of an immense body of sand and gravel; and the entrance into the church-yard from the High Street was (as it is now) by a number of stone steps, but not so steep formerly, nor having so many steps as at present, which are sixty-two in number. Over the highest flight of them there were some ordinary old buildings, which narrowed the passage and obstructed the view of the west front of the church. When arrived at the landing-place, there were two roads, one to the right and the other to the left, which led in a circuitous way to the north and south porches. There was also an ancient enclosed porch at the west door; but this was not much used as a passage, but served to contain the fire-engines, and after they were removed to a building erected for the purpose near the lich-gates some poor people sat in this porch on a Sunday, whence they had a full view of the minister; but within these few years there have been many alterations. The old building over the uppermost flight of steps has been taken down, and perhaps this was the only thing done right in the business. The

old western porch, instead of being repaired, has been with some trouble also pulled down, and a modern open portico, of the Tuscan or Doric order, set up in the place (with as much propriety, perhaps, as if any gentleman should select from the wardrobe of his ancestors a coat of the last century, and now wear it with a modern stiff upright collar). As there is now only one door to this entrance, in bad weather it is obliged to be kept shut, as the wind blows that way full into the nave; and, in order to make a new road to this door, the churchyard has been fairly cut in two, a passage having been made 24 yards in length, and about as deep as a navigable canal (to which it bears some resemblance), and the dead have been raised up. Corpses, in all degrees of putrefaction, were disturbed and laid promiscuously in the passage leading to the north porch, which by that means is much higher than before. The offensive part of this business was done in the night, and these matters were effected at a heavy expense to the parish, and are no improvements. About thirty years ago there was in the church a statue of Hilary, a Crusader (whose mansion was said to be on the spot where Bescott Hall now stands, about a mile from Walsall). This statue was of excellent workmanship, and lay in an elegant attitude on an altar-tomb, reclining on the right elbow, the legs crossed, and the left arm covered with a shield. It seemed to have been cast of some composition resembling stone, as it was hollow. A print of something like it was given in your magazine for 1792, copied from Dugdale. This statue, the only one of the kind remaining in the church, has been removed carelessly from place to place, and finally immured, upright, in a niche in the south chancel, never more to be seen, as it is hidden now by deal boards. The floor of the east chancel is some steps higher than that of the church, and the ground without being many feet lower; there is a curious passage under it, just beneath the communion-table, through a fine old Gothic arch, for foot passengers. And under this chancel there is also a large vault, now used to hold lumber in. Another, a lesser vault or crypt, opens into this, filled with the sad remains of mortality, skulls and bones. There is a fireplace in the large vault, and a chimney carried up within one of the buttresses to the roof of the chancel. What could be the use of this? I have endeavoured, without effect, to discover when this church was built. Vulgar tradition says it is 1,000 years old; but, if I may hazard a conjecture, it was erected about the close of the fourteenth century; and my reasons are these: Thomas Beauchamp, the second of that name, Earl of Warwick, was in those days lord of the manor of Walsall, and probably contributed to the building; his arms, impaling Ferrers of Groby (of which family his lady was), being still to be seen in stone at the bottom of the pulpit; and he died in 1401. Philippa, a sister of the said Thomas, married Hugh, Earl of Stafford, and by

him had four sons, three of whom were in succession earls of that place, and their arms, quarterly Stafford and Beauchamp, are on two of the sides of the ancient font. The last of them died about 1403, and probably they also contributed to the erection of the church. Also the crest of the Beauchamps, a bear and ragged staff, is carved in wood under one of the seats of the stalls in the chancel, which appears to have been a choir.

Before the Reformation this church was under the patronage of the famous abbey of Hales Owen; and Queen Mary sold the manor and presentation to Richard Wilbraham, Esq., of Woodhey, in Cheshire (arms, Arg. three bends wavy az.), and in a noble descendant of his it still remains. J. G.

[1800, *Part I., pp.* 124, 125.]

I send you the following historical sketch of the organs which have been in the parish church of Walsall.

I cannot discover when the first was erected; but have been informed by an ancient intelligent inhabitant, now deceased, that the organ which stood in the church before the troubles (temp. Car. I.) was in a north gallery (the present seat or pew of Mr. Samuel Wilson, etc.), and that the said organ was pulled down by the Oliverians, and the woodwork, together with the Prayer-Books belonging to the church, burnt in the market-place.

Among other passages of benefactors' names, etc., in front of the said gallery, painted in 1654, is the following:

"Mr. Robert Parker gave £5 per annum to pay one to play on the organ in Walsall church. The Merchant Taylors have £100 for the payment of this £5 per annum."

Since the organs were demolished, this £5, by a decree in Chancery, is "to be paid in bread to the poor of Walsall borough and foreign (to wit) £1 13s. 4d. a year to the borough, and £3 6s. 8d. to the foreign."

This decree has been reversed many years; for I have been informed by Mr. Alcock (one of our organists) that "he, as such, received £4 a year from the Merchant Taylors, and that 20s. more was stopped for the land tax."

After the Restoration another organ was erected in a new gallery built at the eastern extremity of the nave, and the builder of it was the celebrated Father Smith. This had a very handsome case, though not large, being adorned with a profusion of carving and gilding. Over the centre was a large shield of the king's arms; and over the wings were the lion and unicorn sejant and regardant. Each supported a small shield; on the one was painted the bear and ragged staff, and on the other Or, a chevron gules, charged with a Stafford knot. This organ was repaired in 1726; but about 1772,

it being through age somewhat worse for wear, a new organ was ordered. The old one was sold to Mr. George Hill, an inhabitant, for the small sum of £12 10s., and he built a large room in his garden for its reception (since converted into a dwelling-house), and finally sold it to the churchwardens of Stowmarket, in Suffolk, for £50, who had it repaired and enlarged, and it now stands in that church.

Our present organ was built by Mr. Samuel Green, of London, and set up, in 1773, at the expense of near £400. It is a pleasant-toned instrument, but seems to want power, and the situation of it may be one cause, for the church walls are within about 7 feet of it on each side, and, as pews are valuable in this church, two persons each erected one adjoining to it, fronted with mahogany half-way up the organ-case. These take away the effect of the height of the organ, and perhaps diminish the sound. In the Whitsun week, 1773, some anthems, etc., were performed by the Walsall singers in that church; admittance that day was paid for, and the organ was opened by Dr. Alcock, of Lichfield, who then declared that it was a good instrument. And on the next Sunday, in the afternoon, it was first played on in full congregation by Mr. Balam, our then organist (who was blind, and had been a pupil of the celebrated Stanley). The first psalm was part of the 30th, new version, Uxbridge tune; and Mr. Darwall, our vicar (who was himself a musical man), preached a sermon from Psalm cl.: "Praise Him with stringed instruments and organs." In this discourse, the preacher, among other things, recommended Psalm tunes in quicker time than common, as, he said, that "six verses might be sung in the same space of time that four generally are." After sermon the entire 150th Psalm, New Version, was sung to a new tune of the vicar's composing, and the whole concluded with an appropriate prayer and the blessing.

The organist's salary is raised by subscriptions (except the £4 before mentioned), and has been upwards of £40 per annum, and the names of those within memory are Mr. Meeson, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Balam, Mr. J. Alcock, B.M., Mr. Jeremiah Clarke of Birmingham, B.M., and Mr. William Rudge of Wolverhampton, the present organist, who is an excellent performer.

Before I conclude, permit me to take a little notice of the Rev. Thomas Byrdall, M.A., in whose time "the organs were demolished.' It appears that he was presented to the living before the troubles by Sir Richard Wilbraham, the lord of the manor, and that he retained it through all the changes of the times to his death, which was in April, 1662 (he was then aged about 55). In order to keep his living, I suppose, he accepted of the covenant with one hand, and threw away his book of Common Prayer with the other.

Whether after the king's restoration he used the liturgy in Walsall Church, it is now hard to say, as it appears there was no compulsion

till August 24, 1662 ; but in Mr. Samuel Palmer's "Nonconformists' Memorial," he is reckoned as one of the Noncons. . . .

Abating for Mr. Byrdall's compliances with the time in which he lived, it appears that he was a learned, orthodox, and good minister, and although he was buried at Walsall, I find no monument or memorial of him (except on the tables I before mentioned) in the church. J. A.

Weeford.

[1804, *Part I., p.* 113.]

Weeford Church, co. Stafford, is very soon to be pulled down and rebuilt, and it remains for the *Gentleman's Magazine* to preserve the recollection of the old edifice by honouring the enclosed views with a place in some future number (Plate II.). The parish of Weeford is so accurately described by Mr. Shaw in his "History of Staffordshire" (vol. ii., p. 23) as to render any other account unnecessary.

WILLIAM HAMPER.

West Bromwich.

[1797, *Part I., p.* 185.]

The enclosed drawing is a view of the parish church of West Bromwich, in the county of Stafford, taken in 1790 (Plate I., Fig. 2). On visiting the above church in July last, I copied the following inscriptions, which I shall be glad to see inserted in your magazine, to accompany the view. When the church was repaired a few years since, several monuments of considerable antiquity were destroyed, which, I am sorry to say, is become too prevalent a custom; and an ancient tomb, which is sometimes all that remains of a once noble ancestry, is removed to enlarge a pew or something equally frivolous.

On a blue stone near the altar-table within the rails:

"Here lieth the body of MARGARET STILLINGFLEET (daughter of the Rev. Edward Stillingfleet, minister of this parish), who died April 22, 1772, aged 7 years and 9 months."

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

On a tomb in the churchyard:

"Sacred to the memory of MARY, the wife of Mr. Richard Jesson, of this parish, and daughter of Thomas Willats, esq., of Caversham, in the county of Oxford, who exchanged this life for a better the 9th day of April, 1779, in the 26th year of her age, and left three infants, viz., Richard, Thomas, and Elizabeth. Living beloved, she died lamented."

[Rest of inscription omitted.] D. P.

Weston-under-Lizard.

[1763, *pp.* 445, 446.]

Weston is in the hundred of Cuttlestone, the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, and the deanery of Stafford. It is bounded on the east by part of the parish of Brude and part of Blymhill, on the north by Blymhill, on the west by Sheriff Hales, and on the south by Tong. The first account I can meet with concerning this place is that it gave name to the family of De Weston, who appear to have been seated here before the year 1188, from whom it came to the family of Adam de Peshall, and by his daughter to the family of Mutton, or Mytton, and afterwards, by a female, to John Harpsfield, whose heirs seem to have taken the name of Mytton. From them it passed to the Wilbrahams of Woodhay, in Cheshire, and from them to the noble family of Newport, Earls of Bradford. The church, which consists of one aisle, is dedicated to St. Andrew, and the wake was governed by his festival, but is now discontinued; it is well pewed, and very well kept; the pulpit and canopy over it are well carved; the rails of the altar are of iron, and gilt in proper places. The floor of the chancel is of marble, as are also the altar and altar-piece; the font is also of marble. The parish is a rectory, and the glebe land worth £40 per annum. The steeple is at the west end, and hath only three small bells. There is a modus for hay throughout the parish. The right of the lordship and patronage of the living are at present in dispute between Henry Bridgman, Esq., son of Sir Orlando Bridgman, by the Lady Ann, third daughter of Richard, Earl of Bradford, and Diana, Countess of Montrath, youngest daughter of the said earl. The extent of the parish is about three measured miles from east to west, and it is of a form nearly oval, and is computed to contain about 3,000 acres. The nature of the soil is sand and gravel, and marl is plenty in many parts of the parish. There are several pools in the parish called the White Stych, and one mere, called Pike Mere. Weston Heath is the only heath in the parish; there is a warren for rabbits in the parish. Weston Hall stands close by the church, and was the residence of the Earls of Bradford. There are two parks in the parish, one for red and the other for common deer. There is a good rectory-house, and the names of the rectors, as far as I can trace them, have been: —Edwards, Samuel Garret, Samuel his son, and the present is Rice Williams, A.M. The road from London to Chester leads through the parish, and the Watling Street passes through it likewise to Shrewsbury. Newport and Shiffnall are the nearest towns, and Eccleshall is not very far distant. At the east end of the church is a neat window of painted glass. There are several vaults in the church where the Bradford family and their ancestors by the mother are interred, in some of which are stoves to make fires for airing the

vaults. There are in the church several monuments to the memory of the family of the Westons, several of them as old as the thirteenth and fourteenth century, and the remains of Thomas, the last Earl of Bradford, were also interred in this church.

Wetton.

[1794, *Part II.*, *pp.* 890, 891.]

Wetton is a populous village situated north-east of Ilam, so well known for its picturesque scenery. . . . The church consists of a body with one aisle, to which, in their commonly-appropriated situations, adjoin a chancel and a square tower. In the last-mentioned part are three bells. The inscriptions on their different verges are the following. On the largest, in Saxon characters: "IESV BE OVR SPEDE. J. CANK. WARDEN. 1699." On another, in Roman letters: "GOD . SAVE . HIS . CHVRCH . I. WOODWARD . WARDEN . 1603." On the third: "GOD . SAVE . THE . QVEEN. T. HALLOWES . WARDEN . 1703." A curious semicircular arch over the doorway leading from the north porch (the only one) into the church merits attention. The mouldings of this arch are in the zigzag fashion. In the compartment below the semicircle, and immediately over the entrance, we may indistinctly perceive, in rude carving, two figures which, though heretofore beautified by the whitewashing of some honest churchwarden emulous, no doubt, of future fame, are still so conspicuous as to afford us a suspicion that they were designed to represent a dragon preparing to devour a lamb. . . . The register-books for this place reach back to 1657; but, from a note inscribed in one of them, it appears that, in 1693, J. Malbon, the then incumbent, transcribed from loose papers all the entries to the last-mentioned date. Mr. Malbon, to whose diligence in so useful a work much praise is due, died about 1738, and was buried at Butterton, a chapelry in the parish of Mathfield, where a brass plate to his memory records that his days had been in number more than those which a century contains. In Wetton a singular custom in past times seems to have prevailed very generally, as its register certifieth, in giving "an account of the persons who have *bin* transported into, or out, or through the *towne* of Wetton, for which six shillings and eightpence have *bin* paid to the curate for each transportation."

Then follows a list of the persons' names, where brought from, or whither taken, etc. From 1691 to 1741, when the custom appears to have ceased, the whole number of the deceased on whose account the fee had been paid is twenty-seven. Not noticing the quaint use of the term *transportation*, and at the same time observing that there is a custom no way uncommon, by which the clergyman of one parish demands a double fee for every corpse brought from another

for interment, may I be allowed to inquire whether a practice similar in *every* respect hath existed elsewhere? The number of baptisms and burials for the period of seven years ending 1793, as also for an equal portion of time a century back, is exemplified in the two subsequent tables.

TABLE I.

A.D.	BAPT.	BUR.
1687	13	9
1688	6	0
1689	3	3
1690	4	1
1691	6	6
1692	7	5
1693	5	2
	44	26

TABLE II.

A.D.	BAPT.	BUR.
1787	19	9
1788	27	8
1789	17	12
1790	23	10
1791	24	9
1792	20	5
1793	19	12
	149	65

MEDEVELDIENSIS.

Wolstanton.

[1811, *Part I., pp.* 118-121.]

The parish of Woolstanton is situate in the north division of the hundred of Pirehill, in the county of Stafford; and on the south side it adjoins the parish of Newcastle-under-Line. It has two principal divisions, termed the north and the south side.

The north side comprehends the townships of Chell, Wedgwood, Brieryhurst, Stadmonslow, Thursfield, Oldcote, Ravenscliff or Ranscliff, and Tunstall.

The south side comprises Woolstanton, Knutton, Chesterton, and Chatterley.

The length of the parish may be about six miles, the average breadth not quite two. The population, I imagine, may be stated at not less than 5,000, the return in 1801 being 4,679. Several respectable manufactories of earthenware, china, etc., are established on the north side, particularly in the township of Tunstall; and in the south side, near to Newcastle, on the road from thence to Chesterton, is a cotton-work which, from an inscription on the front, appears to have been erected in 1797, and which employs a great number of hands.

Clay, iron, stone, and coal abound in various parts. The principal brick and tile works are at Chesterton and Tunstall, whence the proprietors frequently send their tiles, pipes, etc., to a considerable distance, being able to execute distant orders upon reasonable terms by means of water-carriage. The Grand Trunk Canal passes a mile or upwards under ground at Harecastle Hill, very near to Tunstall, in this parish. . . .

Woolstanton Church is an ancient stone building, situate about a mile from Newcastle, on the road from thence to Burslem and other parts of the Pottery. It consists of a tower and spire, which is a conspicuous object to the country around; a nave, side aisles, with a small south porch, and a chancel. The nave and aisles are embattled. The tower is situate on the side of the north aisle at the east end. It contains a clock and six bells. The bells formerly belonged to the parish of Trentham, and are thus inscribed, in capital letters:

1. "Abr: Rudhall cast us all. 1714."
2. "Richd. Marlow, Wm. Hall, Ch. Wardens. A.R. 1714."
3. "Jeffrey Williams, A.M. Minister. A. R. 1714."
4. "George Plaxton, Rector of Berwik in Elmet. 1714."
5. "Richd. Asburie, of this Town, Blacksmith, gave me in 1623. Recast, 1714."
6. "John Lord Gower. Kath: Lady Dowager Gower. 1714."

On the east side of the tower is a modern-built vestry-room, wherein parish meetings are held and business transacted.

In the interior of the church, the nave is separated from the aisles by four pointed arches on each side, supported on plain pillars; it also communicates with the chancel at the east end through a pointed arch, over which is a painting of the king's arms, and two tables containing the Lord's Prayer, Relief, and Ten Commandments, below which are two Tables of Benefactions.

First Table.

Benefactions to the Parish of Woolstanton.

Queen Elizabeth of famous memory, late Queen of England, left Five Pounds yearly for ever, to be disposed of among the Poor Householders of the Parish of Woolstanton; which said sum is charged upon the Corn Tithes of the said Parish.

Mrs. Edward Unwyn, late of Harding's Wood, gave unto the poorest Householders of the Parish of Woolstanton, that are no beggars, upon every Good Friday, the sum of Thirty Shillings amongst twenty of them.

Mr. Dale, late of Mowle, left Three Shillings yearly for ever for and towards the Repair of the Parish Church of Woolstanton.

William Abnett, late of Audley, Gent., left Four Shillings to be paid yearly, out of a Field at Winbrooke, called Up Smith Hill, to be dealt in Groat Loaves by the Church Officers of Woolstanton, on Good Friday for ever, to Twelve Poor Householders.

John Cowell, late of Knutton, gave unto the Poor Householders of Chesterton and Knutton, Thirty-two Shillings yearly for ever; and also to the South side of Woolstanton Parish the sum of Twenty Pounds, to set Poor Children Apprentice.

The Honourable Lady Frances Noel gave one large Silver Cup

and a large Silver Salver to the Parish Church of Woolstanton, for the Communion Service.

John Turmore, late of Woolstanton, gave the sum of Forty Pounds, the interest to be paid yearly for the use and benefit of the Poor Children of Woolstanton aforesaid, to keep them to school or buy books.

Jane Brett, widow of Edward Brett, Esq., of Dimsdale, in the Parish of Woolstanton, gave to the Poor of the South side of the said Parish, Twenty Shillings yearly for ever, to be dealt in Groat Loaves upon the next Sunday to the Seventeenth of February; which said sum is charged upon Little Dimsdale estate.

Ralph Bagnall, late of Woolstanton, gave to the Poor of the Township of Woolstanton, Ten Shillings; to be paid yearly in Bread, and to be distributed, and given in the Parish Church of Woolstanton aforesaid, by the Person that shall inherit his estate for the time being, upon every Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Second Table.

Mrs. Adderley, late of Blake Hall in this County, left by her last Will and Testament, the sum of Fifty Shillings per Annum to the Poor Householders in Tunstall, which is charged upon certain Lands in the Parish of Burslem.

Robert Hulme, late of Sandbach in the County of Chester, Physician, left by his last Will and Testament, an Estate in Odd Rhode, in the said County; Five Pounds for the putting out an Apprentice every year, Thirty Shillings to the Curate of New Chapel, and the overplus to the Schoolmaster of New Chapel, that should teach a Grammar School for the instructing of Eighteen Poor Boys; which amounts to Fifteen Pounds per Annum.

John Cartlich, late Citizen and Goldsmith of London, by his last Will and Testament, gave Fifty Pounds; the interest to be given to such Poor Persons as receive no Pension or Relief from the Officer or Overseers of the Poor of the Parish.

[1811, *Part I.*, *pp.* 323-326.]

Monumental Inscriptions.

On a plain tomb at the west end of the north aisle, near the entrance door, in capitals:

"Here lyeth the bodies of John Cowell, sommetime of this Parish, Yeoman, and Christabell his wife; which sayd John left land, being inheritance, to nine severall persons. Allso hee hath given to the Free Schoole of Newcastle one hvndred povnds. Allso hee hath given to the Poore of Nutton and Chesterton thirtie and two shillings a yeare for ever. Allso hee hath given to the Towne of Newcastle aforesayd Tenn povnds, to pvt poore children to 'prentice; and to the Sovth side of Wollstonton parish twentie povndes, to pvt poore children to 'prentice.

Which sayd John and Christabell departed this life the 13 day of Aprill in the yeare of ovr Lord God 1659.

"Death is the end of all flesh;
The liveing shovld lay it to hart."

Upon entering the chancel, on the north wall is an hatchment, in memory of Ralph Sneyd, Esq., who died December 11, at Bath, in Somersetshire, and was buried in the family vault in this church, December 19, 1793, aged 70 years. His wife Barbara died February 23, 1797, aged 71 years, and was buried in the same vault.

The arms are: Argent, a fleur-de-lis sable, and a scythe, in pale, of the same (Sneyd); impaling, Ermine, two chevrons azure (Bagot). The crest is a lion passant guardant sable.

On the same wall near the hatchment, on a black tablet, in capitals:

"Here lyeth bvried the body of William Yonge, of Caynton, in the covnty of Sallop, esq., who married Svsanna, one of the davghters of Robert Corbett, of Stannerton, in the foresayd covnty, esq., by whome he had issve, William, Mary, and Dorothye. This William was sonne and heire of William Yonge, and Ann his wife, one of the davghters of Sir William Sneyd, of Bradwall, in the covnty of Stafford, knight. He departed this life the eleventh day of Febrvary, Anno Domini 1597."

Immediately below, on a plain stone:

"In memoriam charissimi sui conjugis,
Susanna, ejus Relicta, hoc monumentum posuit,
Lugens defunctam, mox sum defunctus et ipse;
Dumq; sepultam amitam hic viso, sepultus ego hic,
Quis uelit, alterius dum spectat funera mortis,
Non memor esse suæ, meq; amitamq; videns."

Above the inscription, in capitals, are sketched over three coats, viz.: The first: Three roses, impaling Sneyd. Second: Quarterly; 1st, three roses; 2nd, seven fusils, conjoined, ermine; 3rd, a pale nebuly; 4th, a fess between three lions rampant gules. Third: Three roses impaling a falcon close.

Near to the above, against the same wall, is a neat monument of marble, but now somewhat injured and disfigured; the principal parts of the design are an urn upon a small pedestal within a niche between two Corinthian fluted pilasters, which support a pediment; over each pilaster is an urn, and above the pediment the arms of Sneyd. On the outside of each pilaster stands a cherub treading upon a skeleton; on the lower part of the monument on a tablet is inscribed:

"Hic juxta situs est Johannes Sneyd armiger, filius natu minimus Radulphi Sneyd de Keel, et Franciscæ, filiæ D'ni Johannis, et sororis, D'ni Roberti Dryden, de Ashby Canonum, in agro Northamptoniensi, Baronettorum; qui utriusq; parentis sanguine illustris, ab utrâq; familiâ virtutes à D'no Roberto Dryden fortunas amplas accepit, hæres non degener; formâ corporis et animi dotibus conspicuus; egenis liberalis; cognatis, præcipuè in rebus angustis, summè munificus; qui eâ erat indole, ut maximo cuivis muneri sufficeret, eâ tamen valetudine et modestiâ, ut in privatæ vitæ otio latere mallet. Ulcere infœliciter

maligno correptus obiit Mart. XXIII. Anno Dom. MDCCX. ætatis suæ XXXII. Radulphus Sneyd de Bishton, Patruelis ejus, et ex insperato hæres conscriptus, marmor hoc posuit."

In the north corner of the chancel is an altar tomb, having on the top the effigies of Sir William Sneide in armour, and his lady by his side; the front side of the tomb is adorned with the sculptured images of five sons in armour, and six daughters. The end under the feet of the large effigies, has the images of the remaining four daughters; and to the opposite end, under their heads, is affixed two coats of arms: That under the male head is, Quarterly, 1st and 4th Sneyd; second, Quarterly, 1st and 4th sable, 2nd and 3rd argent; each quarter is charged with a leopard's face counterchanged; third, Argent, a cross of cross crosslets sable. The shield under the female head is Sneyd, impaling, Or, three torteaux, each charged with a fleur-de-lis of the first; on a chief Azure, a bugle between two arrow heads argent. Over this tomb is erected a kind of arch supported by plain pillars; the whole of which is of inferior workmanship. Against the wall on a stone within this arch is inscribed, in capitals:

"Here lie the bodies of Sir William Sneide, of Broadwall,* knight, and dame Anne his wife, one of the davghters and heires of Thomas Barrowe, of Flvckersbrooke, in the covntie of Chester, esqvier; who had issve five sons and ten davghters; which Sir William died the 6 of Jvne, 1571."

Against the east wall on the south side of the chancel window is a globular marble tablet, encircled by a wreath, adorned on each side with a weeping cherub, and surmounted by a bust; it has also the arms of Sneyd and Dryden, on distinct shields on the lower part, and at the bottom of all an angel. The arms of Dryden are: Az. a lion rampant or, a globe between two estoiles of the last in chief. It is inscribed:

"H. S. E. Willielmus Sneyd, Radulphi Sneyd, de Keel, in Agro Staffordiensi Arm. Filius primogenitus; qui antiquæ et insignis Prosapiæ honorem, virtutibus exunius (verâ nobilitate) decoravit & auxit: largis munificæ fortunæ donis & venusti corporis pulchritudine illustris, animi tamen dotibus multò illustrior; quippe qui inter profligatos iniquissimi temporis mores incorruptam egit juventutem, derisamq; modestiam, pietatem ac fidem profiteri ausus est & colere: Ita ut nullibi honestius formam, aut pulchrius virtutem habitâsse dixeris. Longævam ipsi vitam concessisse visa est natura; non enim minus morborum expers corpus, quam mens vitii; donec fatali Variolarum labe correptus, animam puram (quasi facto morbo deturpatum aspernata esset domicilium) Deo reddidit, septimo die Septembris anno Salutis MDCLXXXIX. ætatis suæ XXIV. Dolendum maximè quod tam teneris annis fatis succubuit: Constat tamen Deum vitæ opus perpendere, non dies numerare; illumque satis diu vixisse, qui cœlo maturus moritur."

The above inscription, according to respectable tradition, was written by the poet Dryden.

On the south wall within the rails of the altar is another marble

* Broadwall, the ancient family seat of the Sneyds, is situate about a mile and a half north of Woolstanton village.

monument, nearly similar in design to the above. The cherubs on each side the tablet are represented as holding a chaplet, and not weeping; the arms of Sneyd and Noel are on the lower part on distinct shields. The arms of Noel are Or, fretty gu. a canton ermine. The inscription is:

"In Pace Radulphus Radulphi Sneyd de Keel armig: in Com: Staff: fillus natu tertius; Francisca uxore, filia Gulielmi Noel equit: aurat: de Kirkby Mallery in agro Leicest: et tribus liberis, Radulpho, Edoardo, Honoria, superstitibus; Obiit prid. nonas April. A. C. CIↃIↃCXCV: Vixit annos XXV. M. III. D. XIII. magnum apud parentes, necessarios, conjugem, bonos, Sui desiderium reliquit: et ingente plorantium frequentiâ elatus est. Pientissima conjux, contra votum B. M. d. s. p. P. C."

Beneath the above monument are three stone seats and a piscina.

In the chancel, near or under Mr. Sneyd's hatchment, is an old oaken chest, with these initials and date: F. C. I. T.—M. B. 1636, R. C. W. D. R. H. In the years 1803 and 1804 this church underwent considerable repairs; the seats, which were old and in bad condition, were taken down and rebuilt, with the addition of boarded floors and new oak fronts. It is now well pewed. The aisles were then laid with new quarry bricks, and the walls whitewashed, etc., the expense of which repairs was about £230.

On the beam which supports the rafters of the south aisle, extending the whole length in one line in capitals, is:

"Sir : Thomas : Colloclogh : knight : 1623 : John Brett : esqvier : Raphe Bovrne : John : Maclesfeelde : John Woode : Chvrchwardens : Anno : Domini : 1623."

This may be, perhaps, the date of the building of the church, or some important repairs.

The Parish Register begins in 1628, during which year are recorded 26 funerals, 6 weddings, and 40 baptisms; and in the succeeding year, 25 funerals, 2 weddings, and 53 baptisms. . . .

New Chapel is a chapel-of-ease to Woolstanton, and is situate four or five miles northward of the mother church; it is a modern brick building, in the interior, say, about 48 feet by 36 feet, and contains two double rows of oak pews, and a small west gallery; it has no tower, but there is a common cupola at the west end, in which is hung a small bell. In the chapel yard is a plain altar-tomb, to the memory of that eminent mechanic James Brindley, who has immortalized his name by his superior skill in planning and conducting inland navigation. He was buried here, and the inscription on his tomb is merely:

"James Brindley, of Turnhurst,* Engineer, was interred Sept. 30, 1772, aged 56."

Panegyric is not wanting for such a person, for, as long as those canals which he made endure, the name of Brindley will be remembered. This extraordinary man, though originally in humble

* Turnhurst is a mansion in this parish at a small distance south of the chapel.

life and circumstances, by his superior genius and industry was enabled, not only to benefit his country, but to acquire an ample fortune. Some of his relatives and descendants now live in and near Woolstanton parish, in great respectability and independence.

The chapelry is co-extensive with the north side of the parish. The chapel is endowed with an estate in the parish of Norton-in-the-Moors, and some land in Burslem parish, together with a few small annuities, and part of the surplice fees.

The patronage of this chapel was formerly claimed by the Rev. J. Harding, the Vicar of Woolstanton, in right of his vicarage; but he was successfully opposed by Dryden Sneyd, Esq., John Bowyer, Esq., and Sarah Crewe, otherwise Bourne, the wife of Charles Crewe, Esq., and the Judge, by his interlocutory decree, declared that their ancestors and predecessors did found and endow the church of New Chapel, and that the right of nomination belonged to them. The present patrons are Walter Sneyd, Esq., of Keel, Mrs. Lawton, and Miss Alsager.

The present minister is John Lawton, A.M.

The living of Woolstanton was formerly a rectory, valued in the King's Books at £32 3s. 9d. and was given by King Edward VI. (Aug. 20, 1547), together with other livings, to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, in lieu of some lands, etc., which were alienated from his see.* It is now a valuable vicarage, endowed with a parsonage house, close to the church, nearly 50 acres of glebe, and the vicarial tithes, surplice fees, etc.

The patron and impropriator is Walter Sneyd, Esq. of Keel.

The following is a list of the incumbents according to the register :

1628. Fran. Capps, buried 24th Nov., 1643.
1646. Isaac Keeling, minister.
1663. Do. do., vicar, buried 15th Aug., 1679.
1679. Richard Taylor, buried 25th Sept., 1696.
1696. Edw. Vernon.

Respecting this and the next incumbent, the following memorandum occurs in the parish register :

"Gulielmus Forde, vicarius de Woolstanton, per reverendum in Christo patrem archiepiscopum institutus, 7° die Julii Anno Dom. 1698, virtute brevis ad prædict. archiepis. direct. post verdictum contra epis. hujus diœcesis et Ed. Vernon Cle. recuperat' a Radulpho Sneyd, hujus vicarii Patrono indubitato."

From hence it appears probable that the patronage was granted with the impropriation, and when it became a vicarage the bishop was deprived thereof.

1698. Wm. Forde, buried 17th April, 1708.
1710. William Foden.
1724. John Harding, buried 24th April, 1743.
1747. Samuel Middleton, who resigned in 1756.

* *Vide* Shaw's "Staffordshire," vol. i., p. 281.

Edward Sneyd was instituted November 5 of the same year, and held the living near thirty-nine years. He was buried at Keel, October 23, 1795, in the sixty-third year of his age.

His successor was John Fernyhough, who was formerly of Queen's College, Cambridge, of which society he was fellow twelve years. He commenced B.A. in January, 1752, and was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, on a title to the curacies of Whitmore and Chapel Chorlton (two churches near Newcastle-under-Line), March 18, 1753. In March 1760 he was licensed to the curacy of Newcastle-under-Line; where he lived from that time, a truly respectable and beloved minister, till his death. For nearly twenty years he was also incumbent of Maer, a curacy about seven miles from Newcastle. He took the degree of M.A. 1755, B.D. 1764. In March, 1796, he was instituted to the vicarage of Woolstanton, on the nomination of the present patron, which he retained, together with the curacies of Newcastle and Maer, till he departed this life, March 8, 1803, in the seventy-third year of his age.

Mr. Fernyhough was a man of generous and benevolent principles, and his social and domestic virtues will long endear his memory in the recollection of those who had the pleasure of knowing him.

He was succeeded by W. Chester, A.M., fellow of Merton College, Oxford, who resigned in 1807 for the living of Denton in Norfolk.

The present worthy incumbent is John Basnett, LL.B.

UU—S.

[1811, *Part II., pp.* 411, 412.]

The parish register at Woolstanton contains the entries of several marriages which took place in the time of Cromwell, when the clergy were not allowed to solemnize matrimony. That usurper, probably to degrade the clergy, caused all marriages to take place before a magistrate. The following extract shows the manner in which they were recorded:

"Mr. John Milward, sonne of the Wor^{full} John Milward, of Snitterton, in the countie of Darbie, Esq^{r}; and Miss Jane Sneyd, daughter of the Wor^{full} Mrs. Jane Sneyd, of Bradwall, within the county of Stafford, widdowe, weare published, 3 severall Lords dayes, in the parish church of Wolstanton, in the countie of Stafford; and likewaise in the parish church of Darby, in the county of Darbie aforesaid; viz., the 21st and the 28th dayes of December, and the 4th day of Januarie, 1656; according to an act of Parliament in that case made & provided; (and noe exception made by any p'son) as by the certificates, under the hands of the Registers of Wolstanton & Darby, was made playnly to appear unto me; and the said Mr. John Milward and Miss Jane Sneyd weare married to the 27th day of Januarie, 1656, before me Edward Brett, Esq^{r} one of the Justices

of the Peace for the countie of Stafford: wittness my hand the day and year last above written, Edward Brett."

Again:

"Richard Marsh, son of Thomas Marsh, late of Wolstanton, deceased, and Ann Rowley, daughter of William Rowley, of Broadfield, weare published 3 severall market dayes at the Markett Crosse in Newcastle-under-Lyme: viz., the first, the 8th, and the 15th dayes of December, 1656 (and noe exception made by any p'son). And the said Richard Marsh & Ann Rowley weare married the 23d day of December, 1656, before Edward Eardley, Esqr one of the Justices of the Peace for the countie of Stafford."

The following is said to have been the form of marrying before a magistrate, as enjoined by the Parliament during the Commonwealth of England, to take place from September 29, 1563:

"Man.

I, A. B., do here, in the presence of God, the searcher of all hearts, take thee, C. D., for my wedded wife; and do also, in the presence of God and before these witnesses, promise to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband.

Woman.

I, C. D., do here in the presence of God, the searcher of all hearts, take thee A. B. for my wedded husband; and do also, in the presence of God and before these witnesses, promise to be unto thee a living, faithful, and obedient wife."*

The above documents, perhaps, furnish a complete account of the whole ceremony during the time the Act was in force. W. S.

[1833, *Part I., pp.* 511, 512.]

The burial-ground of Thursfield, *alias* Newchapel, in the parish of Wolstanton, in the county of Staffordshire, contains the mortal remains of James Brindley, the great self-instructed canal engineer, under a tablet monument, having the following simple inscription:

"In memory of James Brindley, of Turnhurst, engineer, who was interred here, September 30, 1772, aged 56."

This chapel is situate on a bleak eminence, forming part of the rising ground which terminates in the summit of the picturesque mountain or hill called Mowcop, or Molecop, synonymous, as I think, with "great hill" or "topmost hill" in the ancient British language.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the joint presentation of three families, whose present representatives are Ralph Sneyd, Esq., of Keel; the Rev. Offley Crewe, of Mucklestone, as a trustee of Sarah Swinnerton, widow; and Charles Heaton, of Endon, gentleman, as acting executor of Thomas Rowley, surviving trustee under the will

* See *Athenæum*, April, 1808, p. 324.

of Judith and Mary Alsager. The Rev. William Carter is the present incumbent. The endowment consists of about forty acres of land, called the Bank Farm, in the parish of Norton-in-the-Moors, thirty shillings a year benefaction, a royal bounty (the amount of which I do not know), and a part of the surplice fees, the remainder of which go to the vicar of the mother-church of Wolstanton. The total annual income realized by the incumbent on an average of the last three years is about £83.

The chapel is a very plain structure of brick, built in the year 1767, and lately re-roofed with blue tiles from the noted manufacture at Tunstall, a town about two miles off (now forming part of the new borough of Stoke-upon-Trent). There is a large porch at the west end, in which are the vestry-room and gallery staircase, surmounted by a small cupola or bell-tower containing one bell. On the upper string-course or cornice of this belfry is engraven: "John Lawton, Incumbent. William Carter, Curate, 1827. John Henry Clive, George Goodwin, Wardens." The date being the year in which the cupola was built and the roof was fresh covered.

Previously to the erection of the present chapel there was one of stone on the same site, which was also called the New Chapel; perhaps built in the place of the old chapel mentioned in the "Taxatio Ecclesiastica," made in the year 1288: "Eccl'ia de Wolstanton cu' capell' £26 13s. 4d., £2 13s. 4d.," which chapel may be presumed to have been here, as there is no other in the parish.

There is a double row of pews on each side the centre aisle, and a small west gallery. Against the walls are two tables, recording benefactions by Dr. Hulme in 1728; John Cartlitch, citizen and goldsmith of London, a native of Tunstall; Joseph Bourne, of Chell, gentleman; Mr. Edward Unwin, late of Harding's Wood; Mrs. Adderley, late of Blake Hall; Mr. William Baddeley, late of Tunstall; and, in 1733, William Abnet, late of Audley, gentleman.

Against the south wall is an elegant monument of white marble, containing an inscription relating the untimely death of John Williamson, who was drowned whilst bathing in the year 1810. There is also, within the communion-rails, another handsome mural monument to the memory of the Rev. Robert Littler, who died in 1832, father-in-law of the present incumbent. S. X.

Wolverhampton.

[1801, *Part I., pp.* 502, 503.]

In my way to Wolverhampton I passed by Bentley Hall; but this is not the same structure which afforded an asylum to King Charles II. after Worcester fight, that building having been pulled down after the Restoration, and the present erected in the place; but the plan was never completed, nor the inside finished. It is

inhabited by a farmer of the name of Walker, and is the property of Thomas Anson, Esq., M.P. for Lichfield, having been purchased by Lord Anson about 1750. . . .

St. Peter's (or the old church at Wolverhampton) is a handsome ancient fabric, embattled, built in 996 by a lady named Wulfrune, from whom the town takes its name. The tower, which is between the body and the chancel, is lofty and beautiful. It contains eight bells in peal, with a very large one used at funerals, and a small one to call to prayers; it has also a clock and chimes. The nave has two side aisles, and north and south transepts. In the latter, near the vestry (which is a very small room), is an altar-tomb of the Levesons, with statues of a man and woman, and coats of arms; and in the north transept is another ancient altar-tomb of Thomas Lane, Esq., of Bentley, and his wife, with their effigies recumbent, and arms; also a handsome mural monument of John Lane, Esq., 1782, and near it the fine monument of his ancestor, who gave shelter to King Charles II. The whole of these memorials are enclosed within iron rails; and near to the place is the font, a curious piece of ancient work ornamented with much carving, as likewise is the pulpit.

In the chancel (which has seats like those of a choir), in a niche in the south wall), is a beautiful monument, of brass gilt, of Sir Richard Leveson, larger than life; he is represented erect, in armour, a bassoon in one hand, and two naked boys, or cherubs, are at his feet. Tradition tells us that this statue was taken down in the reforming times of Oliver, and sold to be melted; but the person who bought it concealed it till after the Restoration, when he produced it, and it was then set up again. The altar-piece is a painting representing the agony of Christ in the garden. In this church (which is collegiate) are four men and six boys who attend divine service in surplices, and repeat the responses, but do not chant, as in cathedrals; and it is a deanery united to Windsor. When the dean happens not to be a bishop of some other place, no bishop has a right to administer confirmation here, as it is extra-episcopal; and there is a large house on the north side the churchyard called the Deanery. The west end of this church seems to be neglected, and wants some repairs; and the chief doors of entrance are in the north and south porches, and in the latter is a mural monument to the memory of Claudius Charles Philips, a celebrated performer on the violin, who died in 1732. The roof of the chancel is much lower than that of the nave, and seems from the style of the building to be of later erection.

St. John's Church is a handsome modern-built structure, and has a beautiful octagon spire not many years erected, which at present contains only one bell. This church has also a noble organ, and the altar-piece, which is by a native, represents the taking down of

Jesus from the cross, and seems to be well executed. The church stands in a very pleasant situation, having a spacious burying-ground, skirted by four walks and adorned with trees, and there are four streets leading to it, facing the four cardinal points, three of which consist of handsome modern buildings, but the west street is not yet completed. One custom I observed in both churches, that not many of the congregation sing, and all sit during that part of Divine worship; but in Birmingham it is otherwise, the congregations stand up.

As there are many Roman Catholics in Wolverhampton and the vicinity, there is a chapel of that kind in the town, which is numerously attended; and there are also several meeting-houses of different sects, some of which have not long been built. Upon the whole this is a populous, good town, and the largest in the county of Stafford.

AMICUS.

The following articles, which are redundant, or contain matter of no special interest, are omitted:

1795, part ii., pp. 924, 925. Remarks on Lichfield Cathedral.
Ibid., pp. 998, 999, 1074, 1075 } Alterations in Lichfield Cathedral.
1796, part i., pp. 193, 194, 299 }
Ibid., pp. 293-297. Mr. Pennant's and Mr. Jackson's accounts of Lichfield.
1801, part i., p. 322. Letter from Mr. W. Snape, of Sutton.
1856, part ii., pp. 331, 332. Letter on county history—Stafford.

References to other volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library:*

Prehistoric Remains:—Tumulus near Throwley Hall; fossil-tree at Tipton.—*Archæology*, part i., pp. 4, 143-146.

Roman Remains:—Discoveries at Ebchester, Hints, Stafford, Uttoxeter, and Yoxall; stations near Stafford.—*Romano-British Remains*, part i., pp. 301-303; part ii., pp. 498, 499.

Anglo-Saxon Remains:—Antiquities near Lichfield.—*Archæology*, part ii., p. 147.

Architectural Antiquities:—Innovations at Lichfield and Tamworth.—*Architectural Antiquities*, Part i., pp. 115-118, 126-128.

Folk-lore:—Decoration of wells. *Popular Superstitions*, p. 142. Petition of the ancient court of the Minstrels at Tutbury; custom of giving "flitch of bacon" after year of marriage at Wichnor.—*Manners and Customs*, pp. 231-235.

Dialect, etc.:—Provincial words in Staffordshire. Arms of the town of Tamworth; inn sign at Wichnor.—*Dialect Proverbs and Word-lore*, pp. 4, 5, 25, 298.

Ecclesiology:—Tile-kiln at Great Sardon; school of glass-staining at Handsworth; doorway at Haughmond Abbey; sculptured knot on south door of Tutbury church.—*Ecclesiology*, pp. 117, 121, 141, 154.

Suffolk.

SUFFOLK.

1823, *Part II., pp.* 318-322.]

Ancient State and Remains.

British Inhabitants.—Iceni, or Cenomanni.

Roman Province.—Flavia Cæsariensis. *Stations.*—Combretonium, Stratford; Extensium, Easton Ness; Garianorium, Burgh; Sitomago, Stowmarket; Villa Faustini, Wulpit.

Saxon Heptarchy.—East Anglia.

Antiquities.—Roman Encampments of Burgh Castle; Brettenham; Habyrdon, near Bury; Icklingham, called Kentfield; Stowlangtoft and Stratford, on the banks of the Stour. Saxon Earthworks, Fleam Dyke, and Reche or Devil's Dyke (the boundaries of East Anglia and Mercia). Danish Encampments, Southwold, on the top of a hill called Eye Cliff. Abbeys of Burgh (built by Furseus, an Irish monk, temp. Sigebert); Bury St. Edmund's (founded by Sigebert, King of East Anglia, about 638); Leiston (founded by Ranulph Glanvile in 1182); and Sibton (founded by William de Casineto about 1150). Priories of Alnesbourn (the site now a farmhouse); Blithburgh (cell to the Abbey of St. Osith, in Essex, by which it is supposed to have been founded); Bricet (founded by Radulphus Fitzbrian and Emma his wife, temp. Herbert Losinga, Bishop of Norwich); Butley (founded by Ranulph Glanvile in 1171); Clare (founded by Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, in 1248); Creeting St. Mary's (cell to the Abbey of Bernay, in Normandy); Creeting St. Olave's (given by Robert, Earl of Moreton, temp. William I., to the Abbey of Greistein, in Normandy); Dodneis (founded by one Wymarus, or, as others, by the ancestors of the Dukes of Norfolk); Eye (founded by Robert Mallett, a Norman baron); Felixstow

(founded by Roger Bigod, now no remains); Fornham, All Saints', or Babwell (founded about the middle of the thirteenth century by some Franciscans expelled from Bury Abbey); Fornham St. Geneveve (cell to Bury Abbey); Herringfleet (founded by Roger Fitz Osbert, of Somerley, the last of that family, temp. Henry III.); Hoxne (formerly a chapel); Ipswich, Holy Trinity (founded before 1177 by Norman Gastrode); St. Peter's (founded temp. Henry II. or Richard I. by the ancestors of the Lacy family; on the site of this priory Cardinal Wolsey erected his college); Ixworth (founded about 1100 by Gilbert de Blount, a Norman nobleman); Kersey (founded before 3 Henry III.); Letheringham (founded by Sir John Bosvile); Mendham (founded temp. Stephen by William de Huntingfield); Rumburgh (founded temp. William I. by Stephen, Earl of Brittany); Snape (founded 1099, cell to Colchester Abbey); Stoke-juxta-Clare (translated hither from Clare Castle); Stoke-juxta-Neyland (before William I.); Sudbury (Leland says, founded by Archbishop Sudbury and John de Chertsey; but Weever says, by Baldwin de Shimpling and Mabel, his wife); Wangford (cell to Thetford); and Woodbridge (founded by Sir Hugh Rous, Knt.). Nunneries of Bruisyard (formerly a chantry; made a nunnery 40 Edward III.); Bungay (founded by Roger de Glanvile and his lady, the Countess Gundreda, temp. Henry II.); Campsey Ash (founded by Joan and Agnes de Valoines, two sisters, before 7 Richard I.); Flixton (founded about 1258 by Margery, daughter of Jeffery Hames, and widow of Bartholomew de Creek); and Redlingfield (founded 1120 by Manasses, Earl of Guisnes, and Emma, his wife). Churches of Alderton (in ruins); Ashfield (in ruins); Barnham (in ruins); Beccles (noble steeple); Blithburgh; Bury, St. Mary's (first erected in 1005, began to be rebuilt in its present state in 1424); St. James's (first erected about 1200, finished in its present state about temp. Edward VI.); Buxtow (in ruins); Creeting All Saints; Corton (in ruins); Dunningworth (in ruins); Dunwich contained eight churches, of which only one remains, and that in ruins); Endgate (in ruins); Flixton (in ruins); Fordley (in ruins); Framlingham (a stately edifice built by the Mowbrays, Earls of Norfolk); Haslewood (in ruins); Ipswich, St. Laurence (begun by John Botold, who died 1431); St. Mary at Quay (founded about 1448), St. Mildred's (part of the Town Hall); Lavenham (the steeple and church particularly fine); Lowestoft (erected before 1365); Northalls (very fine ruins); Sibton (built in the reign of William II.); Stowlangtoft (built 1370); Thurleston (used as a barn); and Whitton (ancient). Chapels of Bury, Stone (now the Cock public-house); Our Lady's Chapel (no visible remains); Chilton (now a thatched cottage); Dunwich, Holyrood House (some walls remain); St. James's Hospital (in ruins); Easton Ness (afterwards converted into a barn, only a few stones left); Haslewood

(now dilapidated); Hintlesham; Ipswich, St. James's (no remains). St. Mary's (contained a celebrated image of the Virgin); Orford, St. John Baptist, St. Leonard; Ringshall (in ruins); Southwold (rebuilt about 1460); Stratton (the ruins overgrown with trees); Thorp (in ruins); and Witnesham (the ruins not conspicuous). Fonts of Blithburgh; Clare; Framlingham; Hawsted (very curious); Hengrave; Ipswich, St. Peter's (very heavy and curious, of black marble and of great antiquity): Letheringham (curious); Lowestoft; Melton (curious Scriptural sculpture); Onehouse (of unhewn stone); Orford (curious); Snape (ancient and highly ornamented); Ufford (very rich and beautiful cover); and Worlingworth (very elegant and antique, formerly in Bury Abbey). Castles of Bungay (built by the Bigods, Earls of Norfolk); Burgh (in the form of a parallelogram, erected by Publius Ostorius Scapula, a Roman general who conquered the Iceni); Chibton (a dwelling-house); Clare (erected during the Heptarchy, in ruins); Eye (built by Robert Mallett, a Norman baron); Framlingham (supposed to have been built by Redwald, King of East Anglia); Haughleigh (Saxon); Ipswich (destroyed by Henry II. in 1176); Lidgate; Mettingham (built by John de Norwich, temp. Edward III.); Offton (built by Offa, King of Mercia, after he had slain Etheldred, King of East Anglia); Orford (erected in 1072 by Robert de Olly I., a Norman); Sudbury (built in the time of Alfred by one Hastings); Walton (supposed to have been built by Constantine the Great, destroyed 1176; the stones of this castle were used in all parts to pave footpaths with); and Wingfield (built by Michael de la Pole, first Earl of Suffolk). Mansions of Codenham Hall (the seat of the Bennetts, now a farm-house); and Hengrave Hall (formerly the seat of the Kitsons, but now of the Gages, esteemed one of the finest old fabrics in England).

Present State and Appearance.

Rivers.—Alde, Breton, Blythe, Deben, Gipping, Larke, Little Ouse, Ore, Orwell, Stour, Waveney, and Yare.

Inland Navigation.—River Larke from Mildenhall to Bury; Little Ouse; Stour, for barges; canal from Stowmarket to Ipswich, opened in 1793; Blythe, navigable to Halesworth; and Waveney to Bungay.

Lakes.—Aldborough (of considerable extent); Bosmere (of thirty or forty acres); and Lothing.

Eminences and Views.—Aldborough Hill and Terrace (a fine view of the German Ocean); Bloodmore Hill; Burstal (view from it); Corton Cliff (delightful and extensive prospect of the sea); Stoke Hills (near Ipswich); Shrubland Hall (very extensive views); Wickham (prospect from the steeple as fine a view as any in the county); Hill (a most pleasant prospect); and Woodbridge Church (quad-

rangular tower, 180 feet high, forming a most conspicuous object at sea).

Natural Curiosities.—Bungay mineral spring; Countless Wells (the source of the river Ore); at Lopham Gate two springs rise, one on each side of the gate, one of them running eastward forms the river Waveney, the other running westward forms the Little Ouse.

Public Edifices.—Aldborough Custom House; Moot Hall, the Court of Judicature; National School, opened in 1812; Theatre. Barham, House of Industry for Bosmere and Claydon Hundred, erected in 1766 at an expense of £10,000. Beccles, Town Hall, a handsome building; Gaol; Free School, founded temp. James I. by Sir J. Leman, Alderman of London; Grammar School, endowed by Dr. Falconberge. Botesdale Free Grammar School, founded in 1576 by Sir Nicholas Bacon. Boxford Free Grammar School, founded by Queen Elizabeth. Bulchamp, House of Industry for the Hundred of Blithing, incorporated 1764. Bungay, Free Grammar School, which has the right of sending two scholars to Emanuel College, Cambridge, founded before 1591. Bury; Bridewell, formerly a Jewish synagogue; three Charity Schools; Clopton's Hospital, founded by Dr. Clopton in 1730; Free School, very early endowed, for in 1198 Abbot Sampson erected a school-house, etc.; Free Grammar School, founded by Edward VI.; Guildhall; House of Correction; New Gaol, superior to most in the kingdom; Public Library; Shire Hall, on the site of the ancient church of St. Margaret; Theatre, built in 1780; Wool Halls. Clare Free Grammar School, founded by William Cadge, who died in 1669. Debenham Free School, founded by Sir Robert Hitcham. Framlingham Free School and Almshouse, founded by Sir Robert Hitcham in 1654. Hadleigh Free Grammar School; Rectorial Gate-house, built by Dr. William Pykenham, Chancellor of Norwich, 1471. Hawsted Guildhall, converted into a Workhouse. Ipswich, Almshouse for twelve poor women, erected about 1763, in pursuance of the will of Mrs. Anne Smyth, who left £5,000 for that purpose; Assembly Rooms; Bridewell; Corn Market; New Market, a large and spacious building erected by William Brown, architect; County Gaol; Custom House; Free Grammar School, founded as early as 1477, kept in the Refectory of the Dominicans' Priory; Hall, part of the same Priory; House of Correction; Stoke Bridge, connecting it with Stoke Hamlet; Town Hall, formerly the Parochial Church of St. Mildred; Town and Borough Gaol. Kelsale Free Grammar School. Lavenham Free School, founded in 1647 by Richard Peacock, Esq; Bridewell. Lowestoft Grammar School, founded by Mr. Thomas Annott about 1750, the present school-house erected in 1788; Upper Lighthouse, erected in 1676. Melford Hospital, founded by Sir William Cordell, Knt., in 1573.

Melton House of Industry for the Hundreds of Loes and Wilford, incorporated in 1765 on a more extended scale than most of the kind in the county. Nacton House of Industry for the Hundreds of Carlford and Colneis, incorporated in 1756. Nayland Bridge, over the Stour, of one large arch. Needham Market Free Grammar School. Orford Town Hall; Benhall School; Semer House of Industry for Cosford Hundred, incorporated in 1779. Shipmeadow House of Industry for the Hundred of Wangford, built 1765. Southwold, Guildhall. Stoke Free Grammar School, founded by Archbishop Parker, not now in existence. Stowmarket House of Industry for the county, much like a mansion. Sudbury Stone Bridge, over the Stour; Free School, founded in 1491 by William Wood; Tattingston House of Industry for Samford Hundred, incorporated in 1765. Little Thurlow Free School, founded by Sir Stephen Soame, who died in 1619. Woodbridge Shire Hall, where the Quarter Sessions for the liberty of St. Etheldred are held; Free Grammar School, founded before 1592; Bridewell.

Seats.—Euston Hall, Duke of Grafton, Lord Lieutenant; Acton Place, Lord Howe; Aldborough, Cassino, Marquis of Salisbury; Aldborough, Hon. P. C. Wyndham; Aldborough, Marine Villa, Leveson Vernon, Esq.; Alderton Rectory, with a view of the German Ocean, Rev. Edward Frank; Ampton Park, Lord Calthorpe; Ash Highhouse, John Sheppard, Esq.; Ash Parsonage, Rev. G. T. Tavel; Barking Hall, near Needham Market, Lord Ashburnham; Barton Hall, Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart.; Benacre Hall, Sir Thomas Gooch, Bart.; Benhall Lodge, Edward Hollond, Esq.; Benhall Parsonage, Rev. John Mitford; Benhall House, Mr. Neeve; Bildeston House, Richard Wilson, Esq.; Birkfield Lodge, Ipswich, Count Linsingen; Bradfield House, J. P. Fitzgerald, Esq.; Bramfield Hall, Thomas Sherlock Gooch, Esq.; Bramford Hall, N. Lee Acton, Esq.; Brampton Hall, Rev. N. T. O. Leman; Branches Park, near Newmarket, Henry Usborne, Esq.; Brandon, Edward Bliss, Esq.; Brandon Hall, the late John Julius Angerstein, Esq.; Brent Illeigh Hall, Sir Felix Agar; Brettenham Hall, J. Camac, Esq.; Broceston Hall, Captain J. Parsons; Brome Hall, near Eye, Sir Miles Nightingall, K.C.B.; Carlton Hall, Edward Fuller, Esq.; Carlton, John Rabetts, Esq.; Chadacre Hall, — Plampin, Esq.; Chauntry, near Ipswich, C. S. Collinson, Esq.; Cheddiston Hall, — Plummer, Esq.; Chelsworth, Sir R. Pocklington; Chelsworth, Major Fouke; Chilton Park, Colonel Addison; Clare Priory, Mrs. Baker; Cockfield Hall, Sir Charles Blois, Bart.; Coldham Hall, — Metcalfe, Esq.; Crowfield Hall, Coddenham, unoccupied; Crow Hall, Stutton, George Read, Esq.; Culford, Marquis Cornwallis; Dalham Hall, Sir James Affleck, Bart.; Darsham Hall, Major Purvis; East Bergholt Lodge, Sir John Thomas Hughes, Bart.; Easton White House, Earl of Rochford;

Elvedon Hall, William Newton, Esq.; Exning Lodge, near Newmarket, E. W. Martin, Esq.; Finborough Hall, Stowmarket, Roger Pettiward, Esq.; Flixton Hall, near Hartston, Alexander Adair, Esq.; Fornham St. Geneveve, Duke of Norfolk; Gipping Hall, R. Dalton, Esq.; Glemhall Hall, Dudley Long North, Esq.; Glemham (Great), Rev. Dr. Kilderbee; Glevering Hall, A. Arcedeckne, Esq.; Great Saxham, Thomas Mills, Esq.; Grundisburgh Hall, Sir William Anson; Gunton Hall, Thomas Fowler, Esq.; Hadleigh Rectory, Dr. E. A. H. Drummond; Hardwick House, Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, Bart.; Harts Hall, Saxmundham, Charles N. Bayley, Esq.; Hasketon, Edmund Jenney, Esq.; Hawstead Farm, Henry Metcalfe, Esq.; Hawstead Place, Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, Bart.; Helmingham Hall, Countess of Dysart; Hengrave Hall, near Bury, Sir Thomas Gage, Bart.; Henham Park, Wangford, Earl of Stradbrook; Herringswell, Samuel Mure, Esq.; Heveningham Hall, Lord Huntingfield; High House, Lowestoft, Rev. Charles Fishers; Hintlesham Hall, the Misses Lloyd; Hobland Hall, John Penrice, Esq.; Holbrook Hall, Robert Bevan, Esq.; Holy Wells, Ipswich, John Cobbold, Esq.; Hoxne Hall, Henry Maynard, Esq.; Ickleton, Hon. P. Wyndham; Icklingham, D. Gwilt, Esq.; Ickworth Park, Earl of Bristol; Ipswich, Christ Church, Rev. C. W. Fonnereau; Kentwell Hall, — Loggan, Esq.; Kelsale, John Sheppard, Esq.; Kelsale Parsonage, Rev. L. R. Brown; Lakenheath Hall, Mildenhall, W. Eagle, Esq.; Langham Hall, Sir James Blake, Bart.; Leiston, William Tatnall, Esq.; Livermere Hall, Nathaniel Lee Acton, Esq.; Loudham Hall, James Macdonald, Esq.; Marlesford Hall, William Shuldham, Esq.; Melford Hall, Sir William Parker, Bart.; Melton, Thomas Brooke, Esq.; Melton, Charles Sharpe, Esq.; Mildenhall, Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart.; Milding Hall, G. Powney, Esq.; Nacton Hall, Sir Philip Bowes Vere Broke, Bart.; Onehouse Parsonage, Rev. D. Pettiward; Orwell Park, Sir Robert Harland, Bart.; Parham Lodge, F. White, Esq.; Playford Hall, William Clarkson, Esq.; Redgrave Hall, Admiral Wilson; Red House, Ipswich, Mileson Edgar, Esq.; Redisham Hall, near Beccles, J. Garden, Esq.; Rendlesham House, Lord Rendlesham; Rose Hill, Farnham, widow of late T. Fuller, Esq.; Rushbrook Hall, Robert Rushbrook, Esq.; Ryes Lodge, near Sudbury, Nathaniel Barnardiston, Esq.; Saint Edmund's Hill, M. F. Cocksedge, Esq.; Sans Souci, Yoxford, Jacob Wittington, Esq.; Santon Downham, Earl Cadogan; Seckford Hall, Jeremiah Heard; Semer Lodge, near Hadleigh, — Archer, Esq.; Shaddingfield Hall, C. Scott, Esq.; Shrubland Hall, Sir William Middleton, Bart.; Somerliton Hall, Rev. George Anguish; Somerton House, Rev. Dr. Madeley; Sotterley Hall, Miles Barnes, Esq.; Sternfield Parsonage, Rev. William Long; Stoke Park, near Ipswich, A. H. Steward, Esq.; Stowlangtoft Hall, Sir George

Wombwell, Bart.; Stutton, Alton Hall, William Deane, Esq.; Stutton Parsonage, on the banks of the Stour, Rev. Thomas Mills; Sudbourn Hall, Marquis of Hertford; Tattingston Place, T. B. Western, Esq.; Tendering Hall, Sir William Rowley, Bart.; Theberton Hall, Colonel Sondes; Thorington Hall, H. B. Bence, Esq.; Thorney Hall, R. Marriott, Esq.; Thornham Hall, Lord Henniker; Troston Hall, near Ixworth, Capel Loft, Esq.; Ufford Place, Rev. Charles Brooke; Westwood Lodge, Blithburgh, — Taylor, Esq.; Wherstead Lodge, Viscount Granville; Woodbridge Priory, Admiral Carthew; Woolverston Park, Charles Berners, Esq.; Worlingham Hall, Robert Sparrow, Esq.; Worlington, Rice James, Esq.; Worlingworth Hall, Lord Henniker; Yaxley Hall, — Leake, Esq.; Yoxford Grove, Sir George Crewe, Bart.

Produce.—Several kinds of fish, as mullets, turbots, smelts, salmon, sprats, mackerel, soles, skates, whitings, and herrings, the fisheries of which last are very extensive. Agate, amber, cornelian, crag, carbonate of lime, and geodes. Barley, clover, wheat, and all kinds of corn and pease. Hops, hemp, and saffron, formerly to a considerable extent. Cows, long celebrated for the abundance of their milk.

Manufactures.—This is not a distinguished manufacturing county, but an agricultural one. Woolpit brick, equal in beauty to stone. Ropes, hempen cloth, calamancoes, gun flints, says, silk, butter, salt, and woollen cloth.

[1823, *Part II., pp.* 404-406.]

History.

A.D. 495, Cerdick, a warlike Saxon, landed at a place in Lothingland, afterwards called Cerdick Sand, and after routing the opposing Britons, and greatly harassing the Iceni with a very grievous war, sailed to the Western parts of Britain and founded the kingdom of Wessex.

A.D. 654, Anna, King of East Anglia, and nephew of King Redwald, a prince distinguished for wisdom and valour, together with his son Firminus, were killed in a battle at Bullcamp, near Dunwich, while fighting against Penda, King of Mercia.

A.D. 870, the Danes, under Inguar, marched to Thetford. After a great battle, the victory remaining undecided, Edmund, King of East Anglia, fled to Framlingham, and afterwards, being affected at the sight of so many martyrs to Christianity, retired to Hoxne, where he yielded himself to Inguar's superior force, and was there martyred, because he would not renounce his faith in Christ, by the Danes binding him to a tree, and shooting him to death with arrows.

A.D. 871, a great battle fought at Barnham between Edmund and the Danes.

A.D. 991, the Danes pillaged the town of Ipswich, and broke down the ramparts.

A.D. 993, Anlaf, the Danish King, again laid waste Ipswich.

A.D. 1000, the Danes once more pillaged the town of Ipswich.

A.D. 1010, Sweyn, King of Denmark, plundered and burnt Bury. At Rushmere* Earl Ulfketel is said to have withstood the Danes, but sustained a signal defeat.

A.D. 1016, the Danes sailed up the port of Orwell, when they had a design upon the kingdom of Mercia.

A.D. 1132, Henry I., returning to England after his interview at Chartres with Pope Innocent III., was overtaken by a violent tempest. Considering it as a judgment of Providence for his sins, he, in the hour of danger, made a solemn vow to amend his life; in pursuance of which, as soon as he landed, he repaired to Bury to perform his devotions at the shrine of St. Edmund.

A.D. 1153, Stephen besieged and took Ipswich. Prince Eustace came to Bury, and demanded of the abbot and convent supplies of money and provisions to assist him in supporting his claims to the throne. This request being refused, he plundered the granaries, burnt many farms and granges belonging to the monastery, and ordered military execution upon the country round Bury. The same year, on St. Laurence's Day, he died at Bury.

A.D. 1165, a great earthquake happened all over this county, and at Ely and Norfolk.

A.D. 1173, the Earl of Leicester landed at Wadgate Haven, in Walton, with his Flemings, and was received by Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, then lord of the manor and castle of Walton. Haughley Castle destroyed by him and his Flemings. At Fornham St. Genevieve, Richard de Lucy, Chief Justice of England, and Humphrey de Bohun, the King's Constable, beat the Earl of Leicester in a pitched battle, and killed 10,000 Flemings whom he had brought over to his assistance, and took him and his Countess prisoners.

A.D. 1176, Henry II. caused all such castles as had been kept against him during the time of the above rebellion to be overthrown, among which were Walton and Ipswich.

A.D. 1179, the Jews, it is said, murdered a boy of Bury, named Robert, in derision of Christ's crucifixion. For this offence, which they also committed in other parts of the kingdom, they were banished the realm.

A.D. 1203, King John visited Bury.

A.D. 1205, the Earls and Barons held an assembly at Bury in opposition to John.

A.D. 1214, John, on his return from Poitou, met his Barons at Bury, and with the utmost solemnity confirmed the celebrated

* Some suppose this battle to have occurred at a place called "Seven Hills," in the parish of Nacton.

Magna Charta. The same year the whole town of Bury was destroyed by fire.

A.D. 1215, Saher de Quincy, Earl of Winchester, withdrew from the siege of Colchester, and retired with his army of foreigners to Bury.

A.D. 1216, Lewis, son of Philip II. of France, who was invited over by the rebellious Barons against Henry III., plundered Bury, and carried away with him into France the body of the royal saint and martyr.

A.D. 1217, Orford Castle yielded to the Barons and Lewis.

A.D. 1267, Henry III. held a general assembly of his friends and supporters, properly equipped with horses and arms, at Bury; and Octobonus, the legate, excommunicated the insurgents, who had strongly posted themselves in the Isle of Ely, if they did not return to their allegiance.

A.D. 1272, Henry III. held a Parliament at Bury, and here he was seized with the fatal disorder that shortly after terminated his life.

A.D. 1289, Edward I. and his Queen Eleanor visited Bury in the month of August.

A.D. 1296, Edward I. held a Parliament at Bury for the purpose of demanding aid of the people and clergy.

A.D. 1297, Edward I. kept his Christmas at Ipswich.

A.D. 1326, Edward II. celebrated his Christmas in Bury Abbey. His Queen Isabella, being dissatisfied with the conduct of the King's favourites, obtained the assistance of the Prince Hainault, and landed with an armed force on the coast of Suffolk. She marched to Bury, and there continued some time refreshing her army and collecting adherents.

A.D. 1338, at a magnificent building called Old Hall, in Felixstow, Edward III. slept, some time before he went on his enterprise into France.

A.D. 1350, the King kept his Whitsuntide at Ipswich.

A.D. 1359, the town of Orford sent three ships and 62 men to the siege of Calais; Dunwich sent six ships and 100 men; Ipswich sent twelve ships and 239 men.

A.D. 1381, soon after the insurrection of Wat Tyler, the Suffolk and Norfolk men, under the conduct of Jack Straw, committed excessive devastations. They proceeded in a body of about 50,000 to Cavendish, and plundered and burnt the house of Sir John Cavendish, the father of the person who dispatched Wat Tyler. They seized him and carried him to Bury, where his head was cut off and placed on a pillory. They then plundered the abbey, and carried off the jewels, etc., but were, however, soon after defeated by Spencer, the martial Bishop of Norwich, at Barton Mills.

A.D. 1383, Richard II. and his Queen visited Bury, and were entertained by the abbey for ten days, at the expense of 800 marks.

A.D. 1443, Henry VI., then only twelve, visited Bury, and resided there a long time. The Corporation and the Abbot, etc., met him on Newmarket Heath; the cavalcade, joined with his retinue, extended a mile.

A.D. 1446, Henry held a Parliament in St. Saviour's Hospital, Bury, and fortified the town against the Duke of Gloucester; but the good Duke Humphrey, visiting it privately, was arrested and imprisoned. According to Pitts (p. 638), this Mæcenas of his age was, in 1447, smothered with bolsters.

A.D. 1448, another Parliament held at Bury.

A.D. 1486, Henry VII. made a progress through this county, and was entertained at Bury.

A.D. 1526, the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk met at Bury, and by their wisdom and moderation quelled an alarming insurrection that had arisen at Lavenham, Hadbury, Sudbury, and places adjacent. Many of the insurgents were brought to Bury, where they appeared before these noblemen in their shirts, and halters round their necks, and received the royal pardon.

A.D. 1549, as soon as the reports of Ketts having formed a camp on Moushold Heath, near Norwich, was received in Suffolk, the common people, having assembled in great numbers, made themselves masters of Lothingland, seized six pieces of cannon at Lowestoft, and brought them to an enclosure at the north end of Gorleston, intending to batter from thence the town of Yarmouth; but, being frustrated by the inhabitants, a great many were taken prisoners.

A.D. 1561, Elizabeth made a progress into Suffolk, and visited Ipswich, Helmingham, and Small Bridge, in Bures.

A.D. 1578, Queen Elizabeth magnificently entertained in Suffolk. On her entering the county, she was received by 200 young gentlemen clad in white velvet, 300 in black, and 1,500 attendants on horseback, under the High Sheriff. In her progress she visited Lawshaw, Hawsted, Bury, Barrow, Euston, and Hengrave; and, in August of the following year, Ipswich.

A.D. 1648, Ufford Church much destroyed and defaced, by order of the Parliamentarians.

A.D. 1665, June 3rd, a naval engagement occurred off Lowestoft between the English and Dutch, in which, after great loss, the English gained the victory. This was the severest blow the Dutchmen ever felt at sea. They had eighteen ships taken and fourteen sunk in the action, besides others blown or burnt up, and lost at least 6,000 men, including 2,300 taken prisoners. On the side of the English were killed and lost the Earls of Portland and Marlborough, Vice-Admiral Sampson, and Sir John Lawson, one ship of forty-six guns, with most of her men killed, and 340 wounded.

A.D. 1667, the Dutch landed 3,000 men at the foot of Felixstow

Cliff, and, marching to the fort, after an hour's incessant fire with their small arms, they were put to flight by the discharge of two or three small guns in a little galliot among the shingles.

A.D. 1672, another engagement took place in Southwold Bay, between the combined fleets of France and England against the Dutch; but the French, instead of assisting, kept out of danger, and left the English to sustain the whole force of the enemy, which they did with great bravery. The Dutch were defeated, with the loss of three ships, one sunk, another burnt, a third taken, and a fourth entirely ruined; the loss on both sides pretty equal.

A.D. 1782, Lowestoft and various parts of Suffolk were well fortified, on account of a threatened foreign invasion.

A.D. 1784, John Adams, Esq., the first Ambassador from America to England, landed at Lowestoft, August 6. S. T.

[1823, *Part II.*, *pp.* 509-511.]

Eminent Natives.

Alabaster, William, eminent divine, Hebraist, and dramatic poet, Hadleigh (ob. 1640).

Allen, Sir Thomas, celebrated naval commander, temp. Charles II., Lowestoft.

Ashby, Sir John, Admiral, and contemporary with Admiral Ulber, Lowestoft (ob. 1693).

Aungervile, Richard, commonly known by the name of Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham, tutor to Edward III., Lord High Chancellor and Treasurer of England, Bury, 1281.

Bacon, Sir Nicholas, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, Bury (ob. 1578).

Bale, or Balæus, John, Bishop of Ossory, and author of "De Scriptoribus Britannicis," Northales, commonly called Cove, near Dunwich, 1495 (ob. 1563).

Barningham, John, Carmelite in Ipswich, and a man of great parts, Barningham (ob. 1448).

Battely, Dr. John, Antiquary, Bury, 1647 (ob. 1708).

Beacon, Thomas, English Reformer (ob. about 1570).

Beale, Mary, portrait painter, 1632.

Beale, or Belus, Robert, lawyer, Woodbridge (died 1601).

Bederic, Henry, Augustin Monk, much followed, Bury (flourished 1380).

Bedingfield, Sir Robert, Lord Mayor of London in 1707, Halesworth.

Bohun, Edmund, political and miscellaneous writer, Ringsfield (flourished end of seventeenth century).

Bloomfield, Robert, author of "The Farmer's Boy," "Rural

Tales," etc., Honnington, near Bury, 1766 (ob. 1823, see pp. 497 to 500, for Memoirs of him).

Bond, William, translator of Buchanan (ob. on the stage, while acting in "Zara," 1735).

Boyce, John, one of the translators of the Bible, temp. James I., Nettlestead,* 1560.

Brooke, Sir Robert, Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas in 1554.

Brotherton, Joan, daughter of Edward de Montecute, Bungay.

Brownrig, Ralph, Bishop of Exeter, Ipswich, 1592.

Burkitt, Wm., commentator on the New Testament, Hitcham, 1650.

Burton, Sir Henry, Lord Mayor of London in 1428, Mildenhall.

Bury, Boston of, learned Monk of Bury Abbey, and author, Bury† (flourished 1410).

Bury, John of, a great opposer to the Wicklevites (flourished 1460).

Butler, William, eminent physician and humourist, Ipswich, 1535.

Calamy, Edmund, jun., Nonconformist divine, Bury, 1635.

Capel, Sir William, Lord Mayor of London in 1503, Stoke-Neyland.

Capell, Edward, commentator on Shakespeare, Troston near Bury, 1713.

Cavendish, John, who killed Wat Tyler in 1381, Cavendish.

Cavendish, Sir John, father of the above, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, Cavendish (beheaded during the insurrection of Jack Straw).

Cavendish, Thomas, second Englishman who sailed round the world; in his second voyage severed from his company, and never after heard of,‡ Trimley St. Martin.

Cavendish, Sir William, usher and biographer of Wolsey, Cavendish, about 1505.

Clagett, Nicolas, D.D., eminent divine, Bury, 1654 (ob. 1727).

Clagett, Wm., D.D., eminent divine, elder brother of preceding, Bury, 1646 (ob. 1688).

Clare, Richard de, Earl of Gloucester, created Knight in 1245, Clare (ob. 1262).

Cooke, Sir Thomas, Lord Mayor of London in 1462, Lavenham.

Coppinger, Sir William, Lord Mayor of London in 1512, Buxhall.

Cornwallis, Charles, fourth Viscount Cornwallis (ob. Jan. 19, 1722).

Covel, John, D.D., learned divine, Horningshearth, 1638.

Cullum, Rev. Sir John, Bart., author of the "History of Hawstead," Bury, 1733.

Crabb, Habakkuk, a modest, pious, and useful divine among the Dissenters, Wattisfield (ob. 1795).

* Fuller says "Elmeseth," or Elmsett. The author of the "Beauties of England and Wales" says Elmsett, and that his father was rector of this place.

† Fuller places him as a native of Boston, co. Lincoln.

‡ The author of "English Topography" says, being unsuccessful in his second voyage, "it is said he died of grief on the coast of Brazil soon after 1592."

Daye, John, eminent printer, Dunwich (ob. 1584).

Drury, Sir William, Lord President of Munster (ob. 1598).

Eachard, John, eminent divine, and a great wit, about 1636.

Echard, Laurence, divine, and historian of some eminence, Barsham, 1671.

Edwardston, Thomas, scholar, writer, and confessor to Lionel Duke of Clarence (ob. 1396).

Ely, Thomas of, papistical writer, Monks Ely (ob. 1320).

Elyot, Sir Thomas, author of a Latin and English Dictionary (ob. 1546).

Enfield, Dr. William, Unitarian divine, the well-known compiler of "The Speaker," and other numerous and valuable works, Sudbury, 1741 (ob. 1797).

Etheldred, St., daughter of Anna, King of East Anglia, Exning.

Eyre, Sir Simon, Lord Mayor of London in 1445, and benefactor, Brandon (ob. 1459).

Fairclough, Samuel, celebrated Nonconformist, Haverhill, 1594.

Falconberge, Henry, LL.D., divine and benefactor, Beccles (ob. 1713).

Firmin, Giles, Nonconformist divine and physician, author of "The Real Christian" (ob. 1697).

Firmin, Thos., benevolent and amiable merchant, Ipswich, 1632 (ob. 1697).

Gainsborough, Thos., celebrated portrait and landscape painter, Sudbury, 1727 (ob. 1788).

Gardiner, Richard, Lord Mayor of London in 1478, Exning.

Gardiner, Stephen, Bishop of Winchester, and Chancellor of England, Bury, 1483.

Garnham, Robert-Edward, divine, Bury, 1753.

Gillingwater, Edmund, historian of his native place, Lowestoft (ob. 1813).

Gregory, Sir William, Lord Mayor of London in 1451, Mildenhall.

Grosseteste, Robert, Bishop of Lincoln, Stradbrook, 1175.

Hawes, Stephen, poet, and Groom of the Chamber to Henry VII.

Herne, Thos., controversial writer (ob. 1722).

Hitcham, Sir Robert, Serjeant-at-Law, Nacton (ob. a little before the civil wars).

Hoare, Wm., ingenious artist, Eye, 1707.

Horminger, John, learned writer (flourished 1310).

Howard, Henry, Earl of Surrey, Framlingham (beheaded 1546-47).

Jackson, Arthur, nonconformist divine, Little Waldingfield, 1593.

Jeffery, John, divine, Ipswich, 1647.

Jenkins, William, nonconformist, Sudbury, 1612.

Inchbald, Elizabeth, celebrated dramatic writer, Staningfield, 1756.

Keble, Joseph, lawyer, and author of several law-books, 1632.

Kinyngham, John, the first encounterer of Wickliffe at Oxford, who disputed with so much modesty, that Wickliff prayed heartily for him, that he might be convinced (ob. 1399).

Kirby, John, who surveyed the county in 1732-33-34, and was author of the first edition of the "Suffolk Traveller," 1735 (ob. 1753).

Kirby, Joshua, F.R.S., A.S., son of the preceding, and author of a well-known treatise on Perspective, Parham, 1716 (ob. 1774).

Lanham, Richard de, learned divine, Lavenham (beheaded with Archbishop Sudbury in 1381).

Laney, Benjamin, successively Bishop of Peterborough, Lincoln, and Ely, Ipswich (ob. 1674).

Leake, Sir Andrew, celebrated Naval Commander, Lowestoft (ob. 1705).

Losing, Herbert, Bishop of Thetford, temp. William Rufus. He removed the Bishopric of Thetford to Norwich. Hoxne (ob. 1110).

Lofft, Capel, barrister, the friend of Bloomfield, Bury, 1751.

Lydgate, John, Monk of Bury, a poet of considerable merit and favour, disciple of Chaucer, and author of "The Fall of Princes," a poem, Lydgate, about 1380.

Martin, Sir Roger, Lord Mayor of London in 1567, Long-Melford.

Mawe, Leonard, Bishop of Bath and Wells, "a good scholar, a grave preacher, a mild man, and one of gentil deportment," Rendlesham (ob. 1629).

May, John, Bishop of Carlisle (ob. 1598).

Mettingham, John de, Chief Justice of Common Pleas in 1290 (ob. 1301).

Michell, Sir John, twice Lord Mayor of London, viz., in 1424 and 1436, Icklingham.

Mighells, James (nephew of Sir J. Ashby), a celebrated naval officer, Lowestoft (ob. 1733).

Milborne, Sir John, Lord Mayor of London in 1521, Long-Melford.

Morton, Richard, eminent physician (ob. 1698).

Nash, Thomas, celebrated author of "Lenten Stuff," etc., Lowestoft, 1564 (ob. 1600).

Naunton, Sir Robert, Secretary of State to James I., Alderton (ob. 1630).

Necton, Humphrey, first Carmelite who in Cambridge took a doctor's degree (ob. 1303).

Oteley, Sir R., Lord Mayor of London in 1434, Ufford.

Overal, John, Bishop of Norwich, and an advocate for Conformity, Hadleigh (ob. 1618).

Paddesley, Sir John, Lord Mayor of London in 1440, Bury.

Paschal, John, Bishop of Landaff, a great scholar and popular preacher (ob. 1361).

Peverell, Thomas, Bishop of Worcester, learned and much esteemed ob. 1417).

Reeve, Clara, author of "The Old English Baron," etc., Ipswich (ob. 1807).

Reeve, John, last Abbot of Bury, Melford.

Ruggle, George, author of "Ignoramus," Lavenham, 1575.

Sampson, Thomas, eminent Puritan divine, Playford, 1517.

Sancroft, William, Archbishop of Canterbury, sent to the Tower by James II., author of various works, Fresingfield, 1616.

Scroope, Thomas, Bishop of Dromore, Bradley (ob. 1491, nearly 100 years old).

Sibbs, Richard, learned Puritan divine, Sudbury, 1577.

Soame, Sir Stephen, Lord Mayor of London in 1598, Bradley.

Southwell, Robert, Romish exile writer (executed 1595).

Sparrow, Anthony, Bishop of Norwich, and author, Depden, 1685.

Spencer, Sir John, Lord Mayor of London in 1594, "rich Spencer," Waldingfield (ob. 1609).

Spring, Thomas, the "rich clothier," benefactor, Lavenham (ob. 1510).

Sudbury, Simon de, alias Tibald, Archbishop of Canterbury, and great enemy of Wickliffe, Sudbury (beheaded by Wat Tyler's mob in 1381).

Thurlow, Edward, celebrated Lord Chancellor, Ashfield, 1735 (ob. 1806).

Thurlow, Thomas, Bishop of Durham, and brother of Lord Thurlow, Ashfield (ob. 1791).

Trimmer, Sarah, religious and ingenious writer, Ipswich, 1741 (ob. 1810).

Ulber, Admiral, temp. Charles II., Lowestoft (ob. 1669).

Ward, Samuel, excellent artist, linguist, and divine, Haverhill, 1577.

Wolsey, Thomas, Cardinal, founder of Christ Church, Oxford, and builder of Hampton Court, Ipswich, 1471.

Wotton, William, learned divine and author, Wrentham, 1666.

Young, Arthur, agriculturist and author, Bradfield Hall (ob. 1820).

S. T.

[1823, *Part II., pp.* 593-597.]

Miscellaneous Remarks.

The corn throughout the kingdom having been blighted, in 1555 the inhabitants of the parts near Aldborough, about autumn, were supplied by a crop of peas, which in a very extraordinary manner sprung up among the bare rocks without any earth among them (Camden).

At Bacton, in 1739, died Henry Howard, aged 95 years, whose wife bare him a daughter in her 58th year.

At Barnham are a rank of ten or eleven tumuli between Rushford, Euston, Barnham, and Thetford, supposed to be the spot where the battle was fought in 871.

Of Barrow, the Rev. Philip Francis, translator of Horace, and the late industrious antiquary the Rev. George Ashby, were rectors.

At Battisford the frame of the Royal Exchange was constructed, and most of the timber employed in the work was the growth of this place.

At Beccles, in 1586, a fire destroyed property to the amount of £20,000. In the Free Grammar School was educated the learned Dr. Martin Joseph Routh, President of Magdalen College, Oxford.

At Belton was buried, in 1776, the late John Ives, Esq., F.R.S. and F.S.A.

At Benhall Parsonage, the tasteful residence of the accomplished Rev. John Mitford, the editor of Gray, is one of the first libraries in the county; particularly rich in the department of Old English poetry.

At Blithburgh, August 4, 1577, a terrible thunderstorm, which damaged the church and killed one man and a boy.

At Brome Church are several monuments of the family of Cornwallis.

At Bungay, March 1, 1688, a fire consumed the whole town, with the exception of one small street; the damage computed at more than £29,896. The famous castle was so well fortified by Hugh Bigod, that he used to say in the wars of King Stephen:

> "Where I in my castle of Bungay,
> Upon the river Waveney,
> I would ne care for the King of Cockney."

At Bures King Edmund was crowned.

In Bury Abbey, at the shrine of St. Edmund, Richard I., on his return from Palestine, offered up the rich standard of Isaac, King of Cyprus. From 1555 to the last month of Queen Mary's reign, several persons were burnt for heretics. April 11, 1608, a fire occurred, which in a strange manner flew to all parts of the town, leaving some houses and streets untouched. It consumed 160 houses, etc., to the value of £60,000. In 1636 the plague raged with great violence. Bury had a Mint. In St. Mary's Church was formerly a plain altar-tomb for Mary Tudor, third daughter of Henry VII., and Queen of France and Duchess of Suffolk; and in the chancel lies interred the last abbot of Bury, John Reeve. In St. James's Church was buried the Right Hon. James Reynolds, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who died in 1738. The churchgate is one of the finest specimens of Saxon architecture in the kingdom. Of St. Saviour's Hospital a window remains. There were formerly three other hospitals, of which there are remains. In the Free Grammar School was educated Archbishop Sancroft; Lord Keeper North; Dr. William Clagett; Dr. John Covel, Master of Christ College, Cambridge; Dr. John North, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge; Dr. Nicholas Clagett, a Greek scholar of

eminence; Christopher Anstey, author of "The New Bath Guide"; Dr. John Symonds, Professor of Modern History at Cambridge, and Recorder of Bury; Richard Cumberland, the dramatic and miscellaneous writer; Lord Middleton; Dr. Charles Collignon, Professor of Anatomy at Cambridge; Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, Bart.; Henry Bunbury, his brother, the celebrated caricaturist; Bishop Thurlow; Rev. Sir John Cullum, Bart.; Bishop Pretyman, now Tomline, the preceptor of Pitt; General Lee, one of the imputed authors of "Junius"; Rev. Charles Blomfield, editor of "Æschylus"; and his brother, the Rev. Edward Blomfield.

In Clare Priory were buried several illustrious families, amongst whom was Lionel, Duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III.

At Cotton died, in 1739, the widow of Dr. Ellis, aged 95; and since, one Woods, aged 102.

At Downham, in 1688, a sand-flood happened, which did great damage. The particulars are to be seen in the "Philosophical Transactions," No. XVII.

Dunwich was dignified with the first episcopal see in East Anglia; founded 636, divided into the two sees of Dunwich and Elmham about 667, united together again in 955, and in 1088 was transferred to Norwich. Had a Mint temp. Henry II. On account of its contiguity to the sea, this town always suffered considerable loss at the influx of the tide, some few of which I shall mention; viz., 1286, when it suffered greatly; temp. Edward III., great part of the town, one church, and upwards of 400 houses, etc., destroyed; in the fourteenth century, two churches destroyed; in the sixteenth, one church, three chapels, and three-fourths of the town destroyed; in the eighteenth, one church, the town hall, the gaol, etc., destroyed.

At East Bergholt resides that pleasing poet the Rev. W. B. Clarke, the author of "The River Duddon."

At Exning Ralph Waher, Earl of East Anglia, planned his conspiracy against William I. with Roger de Britolio, Earl of Hereford, Waltheof, Earl of Northumbria, and some others.

In 1781, near Eye, was found a leaden pot containing several hundred Roman coins and medals, all of the purest gold. Lately has been found an original seal of Ethilwald, Bishop of Dunwich, of beautiful appearance.

At Fakenham, nearly opposite to the church, is the cottage in which the mother of Robert Bloomfield, the poet, was born. See a whimsical account of "The Fakenham Ghost," by this poet, in that entertaining work "The Suffolk Garland."

Felixstow Cottage was originally a fisherman's hut, but converted into a charming retreat by the eccentric Philip Thicknesse, aided by the pencil of his ingenious wife. This spot is described by the poet Barton in "The Suffolk Garland." See a view of it in vol. lxxxvi., part ii., p. 105.

At Fornham St. Genevieve are to be seen, near a place called Rymer House, the barrows in which the 10,000 Flemings were buried who were slain in 1173, now called the Seven Hills, though there are many more. Seven are larger than the others, and probably where the commanders were buried.

At Framlingham Castle was a chapel temp. Henry VIII., hung with arras of the history of Christ's passion; and in another part of the castle, a suit of hangings of the story of Hercules. In the church are buried many illustrious personages, among whom are the celebrated Earl and Countess of Surrey, several of the Dukes of Norfolk, a Duke of Richmond, and Mr. Robert Hawes, the author of the "History of Framlingham." In the collar of SS. of Thomas, third Duke of Norfolk, who died in 1554, is this inscription: "Gratia Dei sum quod sum." Thomas Dove, Bishop of Peterborough, was rector of this parish.

At Fressingfield Archbishop Sancroft drew his first and last breath, and lies buried under a very handsome table monument in the churchyard.

Freston Tower, built by the Latymers, commanding a beautiful view of the river Orwell and town of Ipswich.

In Glemham Parva Church are interred two great sufferers temp. Charles I., viz., Sir Thomas Glemham, who defended Carlisle for the King, and his brother Henry, D.D., afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph. Sir Thomas died in Holland, 1649; Dr. Henry buried 1669.

At Great Blakenham resided the Rev. Edward Evanson, M.A., well known to the world by his controversial writings, and to the neighbourhood by his truly Christian virtues.

Grimston Hall, in the parish of Trimly St. Martin, was formerly the seat of Thomas Cavendish, Esq., who sailed round the world (see p. 510). There is one ilex still standing at this place which is said to have been planted by him.

At Hadleigh lived a poor harmless and amusing idiot named William Twigger, the delight of the parish. In the church was buried Guthrun the Dane, King of East Anglia. In the churchyard was buried William Twigger, the aforementioned idiot. In the Free Grammar School was educated Dr. Beaumont, Master of Peter House, Cambridge, in 1663, and Dr. Overall, Bishop of Norwich. This parish was the rectory of Dr. Rowland Taylor, the martyr, who was buried here in 1555. On the spot of his execution was laid a rude unhewn stone, 21 inches wide and 16 high, with the following misspelt inscription:

"1555
D* TAYLOR . IN . DE
FENDING . THAT
WAS . GODE . AT
THIS . PLAS . LEFT
HIS . BLODE."

At one corner is the word DOCET, now almost obliterated. In the gate-house of the rectory is deposited a MS. "Account of the Church and Town of Hadleigh, by David Wilkins, D.D., Rector," compiled in 1721, which, from the deep learning and eminent abilities of the writer, it is to be regretted has not yet gratified the public eye. Dr. Drake, the author of "Shakspeare and his Times," and various other elegant works, is a resident of this town.

At Haverhill Stephen Scanderett, M.A., was a celebrated and persecuted preacher. He died December 8, 1706.

In Hawston Church are some monuments and tablets to the family of the Cullums, among which is one to the Rev. Sir John Cullum, Bart. It was the rectory and first ecclesiastical preferment of the pious Bishop Hall; and the Rev. Sir John Cullum, Bart., the industrious antiquary, was also rector, patron, and historian of this place.

Helmingham Hall contains a good library, chiefly of early printed books, and a considerable collection of armour.

At Hengrave the superstitious use of cramp-rings against fits is not entirely abandoned. In the church are many beautiful monuments of the Kytsons, Gages, and other illustrious families. See Mr. Gage's valuable "History of Hengrave" (reviewed in vol. xcii., part ii., p. 521).

Heningston Manor is held by a similar tenure to that of Wattisham (see p. 597).

Ickworth Park, the seat of the Earl of Bristol, may vie with any in the kingdom, being about ten miles in circumference.

At Ipswich several persons in the time of Mary burnt for heresy. Here the inimitable Garrick, under the assumed name of Lyddal, is said to have made his first dramatic essay on the stage, about 1739. In St. Stephen's parish, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, had a mansion, afterwards coachhouses. In St. George's Chapel the martyr Mr. Bilney was apprehended as he was preaching in favour of the Reformation. In St. Matthew's churchyard, beneath an altar-tomb, lie the remains of the late Lord Chedworth, who died in 1804. The Tankard alehouse was part of the residence of Sir Anthony Wingfield, one of the executors of Henry VIII. Some curious remains of the decoration of this house still exist here, particularly a curious chimney-piece (see vol. lxvi., p. 913). In St. Nicholas' parish stands the house in which Cardinal Wolsey was born. The Rev. Richard Canning, editor of the second edition of "Kirby's Suffolk Traveller," 1764, was forty years minister of St. Laurence Church. Mr. Green, the author of the "Diary of a Lover of Literature," possesses a very fine and valuable collection of paintings.

The celebrated Archbishop Tillotson was minister of Kedington temp. Commonwealth.

Of Kessingland, the celebrated William Whiston was vicar.

At Lavenham Free Grammar School, Philip Parsons, the divine and miscellaneous writer, was educated.

In Letheringham Church were some elegant and magnificent monuments for the Wingfields and Nauntons.

In Great Livermere Church is interred the Rev. William Martin, father of the well-known antiquary honest Tom Martin, of Palgrave.

At Lowestoft, March 10, 1644-45, a fire consumed property to the amount of £10,297 2s. 4d. The most dreadful storm which ever happened on this coast was that on December 18, 1770, related in the Ipswich Journal of the 29th following. In the church are buried many noble and illustrious personages, among whom are Mr. Thomas Annot, the founder of Lowestoft Grammar School, and Admirals Ulber, Ashby, and Mighall, celebrated naval commanders. This parish can boast of several eminent divines for its pastors, viz., Dr. Scroope, Bishop of Dromore, who died and was buried here in 1491, aged nearly 100; Mr. Whiston, who succeeded Sir Isaac Newton in the mathematical professorship at Cambridge; Rev. John Tanner, the learned editor of the "Notitia Monastica"; and the learned and ingenious translator of the tragedies of Æschylus, Euripides, and Sophocles, the Rev. Robert Potter, M.A., F.R.S., and A.S. Prebendary of Norwich, who died in 1804, and lies buried in the churchyard. In 1755 died here Thomas Cockrum, aged 103; and in 1784 Silvester Manclarke, aged 107.

At Mendlesham, about 1700, was found an ancient silver crown, weighing sixty ounces, supposed to have belonged to the Kings of East Anglia; and in 1758 a gold concave ring, with an inscription in the Sclavonian or Runic character, was also ploughed up.

At Mildenhall, in 1567, a fire destroyed thirty-seven dwelling-houses, besides barns, stables, etc.

Northales, commonly called Cove, was the Rectory of Bale, the learned author of "De Scriptoribus Britannicis."

The banks of the Orwell were the frequent haunts of that admirable painter Gainsborough, and afforded ample scope for the exercise of his inimitable pencil.

Onehouse Parsonage, the picturesque residence of Dr. Pettiward, contains a most excellent library, particularly rich in classical lore. This romantic spot is tastefully described in "The Suffolk Garland."

In Ottley Church is a monument for John Gosnold, who died in 1628. This monument traces his family through the Wingfields and Nauntons, and then through Margaret Countess of Salisbury, who was the daughter of George Duke of Clarence, brother of Edward IV.

Playford Hall, a curious specimen of ancient domestic architecture, was formerly the seat of the Feltons. It is now inhabited by Thos. Clarkson, Esq., the friend of man, whose benevolent exertions for the abolition of slavery are well known throughout the world.

Parham had its Christmas flowering thorn like that at Glastonbury (see part i., p. 586).

In the chancel of Redgrave Church is interred that excellent Judge Sir John Holt, whose monument here is said to have cost £1,500. Here are likewise many other beautiful monuments and effigies for the Bacon family.

The chapel of Redlingfield Nunnery forms the parish church of Redlingfield.

At Rendlesham the palace where Rendulus kept his court is thought to have stood. Redwald, King of East Anglia, kept his court and was baptized, and here Liudhelmus, King of East Anglia, was baptized by St. Chad. A gold crown found, supposed to have been Redwald's. This was the rectory of the late classical scholar Dr. Samuel Henley.

In Rougham Church is the most ancient monument to the family of Drury that can be ascertained. See *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. lxxxiii., part ii., p. 17.

Rushbrook was the ancient seat of the Jermyns; in the church are buried several of that family.

In Saxham Parva Church is the costly tomb of Thomas Lord Crofts, created a peer by Charles II. during his exile at Brussels; and another worthy of notice, erected in the latter part of the fifteenth century to one of the Lucas family.

At Sibton died, in 1820, Henry Jermyn, Esq., whose collections for a history of this county, the result of many years' diligent research, were dispersed by public auction in 1821.

In Stoke Neyland Church are monuments to some of the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk.

At Stowlangtoft resided that learned antiquary Sir Simonds D'Ewes.

In Stowmarket Church is buried Dr. Young, the tutor to the immortal Milton.

Of Ufford the Rev. Richard Lovekin, who died at the very great age of 110, was rector 57 years. David Elisha Davy, Esq., resides in this parish, whose valuable and extensive collections in illustration of this county will, it is to be hoped, at no distant period, be submitted to the public. "Hoc opus, hic labor est."

Wattisham is worthy of notice for the singular tenure by which the manor is held, viz., by the serjeantry of jumping, belching, etc., before the King!

At Wattisfield in 1788 died the Rev. Thos. Harmer, an accomplished scholar in Oriental literature and antiquities.

In Wickham Church is buried Walter Fulburn, a benefactor to the church.

At Woodbridge in 1666 the plague raged with great violence, which carried off the minister, his wife and child, and 300 inhabitants. Here resides the Quaker Poet, Barnard Barton. S. T.

Churches with High Chancels.

[1843, *Part II.*, *pp.* 573, 574.]

The following is a list, so far as I can complete it, of all the Suffolk churches in which the chancels are of the same altitude as the nave. There are, no doubt, many more which on search might be included. The list I subjoin is gathered from a large collection of antiquarian drawings made by the late Isaac Johnson, of Woodbridge (upwards of 1,400), in my possession. These drawings were made between the years 1798 and 1810, and even later. The well-known accuracy of Isaac Johnson is a sufficient guarantee for authority.

JOHN WODDERSPOON.

Samford Hundred.

Bentley.
Freston.
Higham.
Harkstead.
Holbrook.
St. Clement's, Ipswich.
St. Helen's, Ipswich.
St. Mary Elms, Ipswich.
St. Mary Stoke, Ipswich.
St. Nicholas, Ipswich.
Stutton.
Washbrook.
Westerfield.
Little Wanham.
Wherstead.
Woolverstone.

Carlford Hundred.

Bealings Parva.
Bucklesham.
Clopton.
Helmly.
Kesgrave.

Loes Hundred.

Charsfield.*
Dallinghoo.
Hoo.
Kettleburgh.
Letheringham.
Woodbridge (a noble church).

Wilford Hundred.

Alderton.
Baudsey.
Boulge.
Boyton.
Debach.
Hollesley.
Ramsholt.

Plomsgate Hundred.

Aldborough.
Friston.
Little Glenham.
Orford.
Stratford.
Sudbourne.

Blickling Hundred.

Aldringham.
Benacre.
Blithford.
Blithburgh.
Brampton.
Frostenden.
Halesworth (fine building).
Henstead.
Knoddishall.
Leiston.
Middleton.
Rumburgh.*
South Cove.
Southwold (fine church).

* Chancel higher than nave.

Spexhall.
Ubbeston.
Uggeshall.
Wangford.
Westhall.
Westleton.

Mutford Hundred.

Barnby.
Kessingland.
Kirkley.
Mutford.
Pakefield.
Rushmere.

Lothingland Hundred.

Ashbye.
Gorlestone.
Hopton.
Lowestoft.
Somerly.

Wangford Hundred.

Beccles.
Ellough.*
Homersfield.
North Cove.
St. Peter, Southelmham.
St. Margaret, Ilketshall.
Mettingham, Ilketshall.

Hoxne Hundred.

Athelington.
Carleton.
Syleham.*
Sacstead.*
Tannington.
Wingfield.

Hartismere Hundred.

Redlingfield.
Little Thornham.
Rishanger.*

Thredling Hundred.

Peltaugh.*
Thorp.
Winston.

Stow Hundred.

West Creeting.*
Harlestone.
Newton.

Bosmere and Claydon Hundred.

Bricet.
Creeting St. Mary.
Darmsden Chapel.
Hemingston.
Henley.
Somersham.

Thingoe Hundred.

Barrow.*
Flempton.
Fornham All Saints.
Risby.*

Thedwastre Hundred.

Gedding.
Stanningfield.

Blackbourne Hundred.

Little Livermere.
Stanton All Saints.
Thelnetham.

Risbridge Hundred.

Denardiston.
Depden.*
Lidgate.
Wixoe.

Babergh Hundred.

Melford.
Neyland.
Somerton.*
St. Gregory, Sudbury.

Cosford Hundred.

Bildeston.
Lindsey.

* Chancel higher than nave.

London Worthies.

[1821, *Part I.*, *pp.* 126, 127.]

Simon Eyre, Lord Mayor of London in 1445, was a native of Brandon. At his own expense he erected a granary for the Metropolis, with a handsome chapel on the east side of the square of Leadenhall Market, and over the porch was this inscription: "Dextra Domini exaltavit me."—"The right hand of the Lord hath exalted me." He moreover left 5,000 marks, a very large sum in those days, for charitable purposes; and dying in 1459, was interred in the church of St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street.

At Little Thurlow is a noble old mansion, long the residence of the family of Soame, which was built by Sir Stephen Soame during the reign of Queen Elizabeth: he had been Lord Mayor of London; he founded a Free School and an Almshouse here, and died in 1619. The church contains a handsome monument to his memory.

The manor, advowson, and park, of Soham Lodge, near Earl Soham, was the property of John Cotton, second son of Sir Allen Cotton, Lord Mayor of London in 1626. He resided here, and was Sheriff of Suffolk in 1644.

At Stowlangtoft resided Sir Simon D'Ewes, one of the most learned and indefatigable antiquaries of the seventeenth century. Part of his mansion house, called Stow Hall, was pulled down several years ago; but the remains in 1783 received great additional improvements from Sir Walter Rawlinson, who inherited it from his father Sir Thomas, Lord Mayor of London in 1754, by whom the whole parish was purchased in 1760.

In the church of St. Mary at Stoke is a marble tablet to the memory of John Bleaden, Esq., who resided many years at Stoke Hall, near Ipswich, and was fined for the office of Sheriff of London in the year 1804. He was a native of Calne, in Wiltshire, and his eldest daughter is married to Ambrose Harbord Steward, Esq., of Stoke Park, nominated High Sheriff of the county of Suffolk for the present year.

Brome, a village not so much distinguished by the fine old mansion of Brome Hall as by the noble family of Cornwallis, from which the State has been benefited by so many respectable and worthy men, descendants from Thomas Cornwallis, Sheriff of London in 1378. This family would occupy too large a space to enter into minutiæ; suffice it to observe that the members of it have not only filled almost every branch in the State, but filled them worthily.

Sir Robert Bedingfield, Lord Mayor of London in 1707, was a native of Halesworth, a place of considerable antiquity, containing a handsome Gothic church and a chantry worthy of notice.

The manor, with the church of Saxham Magna, which belonged to Bury Abbey, was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Richard Long

and his wife. For several descents it was in the family of Eldred, one of whom built the house so long known by the name of Nutmeg Hall, in the reign of James I. In 1641 his son Revet Eldred was created a baronet. The estate continued in this family till about the year 1750. At the upper end of the chancel, on the south side of the church, is a bust as large as life, of painted stone, and underneath this singular inscription:

"Memoriæ sacrum John Eldred. New Buckingham, in Norfolk, was his first being; in Babilon he spent some part of his time, and the rest of his earthly pilgrimage he spent in London, and was Alderman of that famous cittie.

"His age, } LXXX."
His death, }

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

Under the bust, on a raised monument with a black marble on the top, very neatly inlaid in brass, is the figure of a man, about two feet long, with a ruff and furred gown, well engraved, with the arms of Eldred, Revett, City of London, East India, Turkey, and Russia Companies at his feet; on three brass plates are two inscriptions, one in Latin, the other in English (omitted).

In Hackluyt's collection an account is given of the voyage of this traveller to Tripoli in Syria, and his journey thence to Babylon in 1583. His son Revett Eldred, being created a baronet, thought he could not do too much for his father's memory in the monumental way. He married Anne Blackwell, and died without issue. In Olivers, the family seat of the Eldred family in Essex, many years since was the portrait of an old man, with a ruff, short beard, and whiskers, supposed to represent this gentleman. A Lady Anne Eldred left several charities to Saxham Magna in 1671. Saxham Magna is now the seat of Thomas Mills, Esq.

Sir John Leman, Alderman of London, founded the Free School at Beccles, in the reign of James I., and endowed it with one hundred acres of land for the maintenance of a master and usher, and the instruction of forty-eight boys in writing and arithmetic.

At the south end of Long Melford is an old seat called Melford Place, which was for many years the mansion of the family of the Martyns. Roger Martyn, mercer, son of Lawrence Martyn of Melford, was Lord Mayor of London in 1567.

Tendring Hall is situate a little to the left, between Weyland and Stoke. Sir John Williams, Knt., and Lord Mayor of London, one of its possessors, in the year 1736 built a fine seat here, now in the possession of Sir William Rowley, Bart., M.P. for the county.

In the small church of Hengrave, which is distinguished by one of those round towers peculiar to Norfolk and Suffolk, is a fine marble tomb to the memory of Sir Thomas Kitson, the founder of Hengrave Hall, with effigies of himself and one of his first wives, which possesses this singularity, that a blank is left for her name

and parentage. This gentleman came from the obscure village of Yealland, in Lancashire, having accumulated immense wealth as a clothier, received the honour of knighthood, and purchased the Manor of Hengrave from the Crown in the reign of Henry VIII. Besides this, he possessed several other estates in Suffolk, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, and in the City of London, for which he served the office of Sheriff. He was afterwards appointed by the Duke of Norfolk steward of the franchise of Bury St. Edmund's, and died September 13, 1546, aged 55 years.

Buxhall is remarkable as being the birthplace of Sir Wm. Coppinger, Lord Mayor of London, A.D. 1512. At his death he gave half his estate to charitable purposes, and half to his relations, who lived here in good circumstances. This family was so hospitable, that to live like the Coppingers became proverbial. J. B.

Account of a Charitable Institution in Suffolk.

[1793, *Part II.*, *p.* 805.]

In the year 1704, a few persons in the neighbourhood of Ipswich and Woodbridge joined in a subscription for the relief of the poor widows and orphans of the county clergy; their good example was soon followed by other parts of the county; and in the year 1742, having received several legacies, and larger benefactions, and the annual subscriptions, amounting to upwards of £200, the society applied for and obtained a charter of incorporation under the style of "the Governors of the Charity for the relief of the poor widows and orphans of such clergymen as at the time of their deaths were or shall be possessed of some ecclesiastical benefice or curacy within the Archdeaconries of Suffolk, or Sudbury, or elsewhere, in the county of Suffolk." . . .

The chief constitutions and rules of the corporation are these:

The Bishop of Norwich for the time being is president. There are four vice-presidents, four auditors, two treasurers, and as many stewards as are necessary to collect subscriptions in their several deaneries. The president, or a vice-president, with five governors (under which denomination are included subscribers of five shillings or upwards), can form a court for the transaction of all business.

Three general courts are held annually, one on the second Thursday of July at Bury; another at Ipswich on the Thursday following; at these courts the stewards pay to the treasurers such sums as they have collected, which they disburse to such objects as the governors on petition think entitled to relief; at these meetings the governors go to church, and hear a sermon, preached by some person appointed the year before; they afterwards dine together, limiting all expenses to five shillings, an excellent regulation for a meeting of this nature. At the third general court, held at Stow-

market as a central town, the two treasurers attend, inform the governors what remains in their hands, who order accordingly the second distribution; for it is not fixed like the first, but depends on the state of the corporation finances; the accounts are then closed, signed by the treasurers, and audited.

The following is the description of persons this charity relieves, and the sums they have for some years received:

Annual Allowance.	At Bury, or Ipswich. £ s. d.	At Stowmarket. £ s. d.
A widow under 60	10 10 0	11 11 0
above 60	11 11 0	12 1 6
above 70	12 12 0	12 12 0
An orphan under 16, if we relieve the mother ...	2 2 0	nothing
An orphan under 16, mother not relieved	10 10 0	ditto
Two in a family each ...	6 6 0	ditto
Three	15 15 0	ditto
If more than three in a family, not to exceed	21 0 0	ditto
An orphan student at Cambridge or Oxford	10 10 0	ditto
An apprentice, for seven years	4 4 0	ditto

N.B.—An adult orphan disabled by infirmity from earning her bread we consider as entitled to the same relief as a widow of the same age. We add £20 to £20 given by friends to put out apprentices; and, in case of immediate want, the treasurers are empowered to advance ten guineas; and, in case of peculiar distress, an additional relief is ordered by the general courts.

The corporation have a common seal, representing the two small loaves and five fishes: Motto, "What are these among so many?"

J. Ord.

Aldborough.

[1824, *Part I.*, *p.* 298.]

I transmit you the impression of a brass seal (Fig. 6), now in my possession, which was found in an enclosure at or near Aldborough, in Suffolk, a few months since. It is in good preservation, and appears, from the form of the letters and the rudeness of the sculpture, to be of considerable antiquity. The legend seems to be "Ave Maria Dea."

John Longe.

Ampton.

[1832, *Part II.*, *p.* 585.]

James Calthorpe* was born at Ampton, in Suffolk, on February 21, 1649; being at the time of his father's death a minor of about nine years old, and on his coming of age inherited the paternal estate.

He was the munificent founder of an hospital for boys in Ampton, for the endowment of which, by deed dated March 27, 1692, he conveyed unto Sir John Poley, of Boxtead, in the co. of Suffolk, Knt., and four other trustees, and their heirs, the manor of Aldeby, in the co. of Norfolk, with its rights and appurtenances, and a messuage in the same parish, called Aldeby Hall, with all the lands, meadows, pastures, arable lands, and grounds thereunto belonging; also a messuage or tenement and orchard situated in Ampton, adjoining to the church-yard. The rents, etc., to be applied for the educating, schooling, clothing, feeding, dieting, maintaining, and provision of six poor male children, to be nominated by the trustees out of the towns of Ampton, Great Livermore, Little Livermore, Ingham, and Timworth, in the co. of Suffolk. It was also provided that the resident minister of Ampton should receive out of the above revenues the yearly sum of twenty pounds, and the parish clerk five pounds per annum.

Mr. Calthorpe died unmarried May 2, 1702; his remains were deposited within a vault beneath Coket's chantry in Ampton Church, where against the north wall is placed a neat marble monument, with the following inscription:

"Jacobus Calthorp, Arm. Jacobi et Dorotheæ filius natu maximus, natus est 21° Feb., A.D. 1649, denatus Maij 2°, 1702. Requiescat in pace. Vixit sine pari, sine simili cœlebs decessit, nec supra sortem nec infra Familiæ honorem. Frater suis fraterrimus, universis è longinquo vicinio summis imis publicus hospes, Hospitium adjacens munificè fundavit, tot pueros in sæcula suscipit, alit, instruit, per illum Deus desertos non deserit; orbis parentum subdit. Ferale marmor ne lachrymulis nitorem minuas, idem te credas monumentum nobis,—illi trophæum."

Mr. Calthorpe not having revoked the above settlement, and all the trustees named therein being living at the time of his death, they held their first meeting November 10, 1703. The house at Ampton named in the deed being incapable of being used or made fit for the purposes directed, it was afterwards taken down and rebuilt, and furnished with necessaries for the master and boys, who were first elected in 1713. A. P.

Bardwell.

[1825, *Part I.*, *p.* 386.]

J. B. inquires what family bore the following arms, viz.: Arg. on a chief indented vert, two mullets of six points or, a coat which appears

* For an account of the Calthorpe family, see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1832, part i., pp. 109, 110.

upon the body of a figure in armour, still remaining in a window at Bardwell Church, Suffolk, and also upon a small shield over his head; but in both the chief is left plain, or argent. The same thing occurs in another coat of arms in an adjoining window, when the colour wanted is vert, and therefore, it is conjectured, the blazon above given is correct.

[1825, *Part I., p.* 482.]

Mr. Percy Sydney, in answer to J. B., begs leave to suggest that the arms he mentions may be those of Drury, viz.: Argent, on a chief vert, the letter T between two mullets or. The family of Drury is well known to have had large possessions in the neighbourhood of Bury, and I conceive that the difference between their arms and those in question, being merely the omission of the letter T, and the indenting of the chief, is less than between that coat and the Bacons'. The figure upon which the shield is placed is supposed to be that of Sir William Bardwell, who died in 1434. It is reported that this figure has been repaired with modern stained glass; if this be correct, may not the arms have been taken from the coat in another window?

[1825, *Part II., pp.* 21, 22.]

Mr P. Sydney has, I think, suggested the right answer to my query respecting the coat of arms in a window of Bardwell Church, Suffolk, and this opinion is strengthened by the fact that the cross Tau was not borne by all the branches of the Drury family.

The figure in question is not that of Sir William de Berdewell, nor has any part of it been repaired except the head, which was lost, and has been replaced by a modern one. It represents a man kneeling, his hands joined in the attitude of prayer; he is habited in a guipon adorned with the armorial bearings as stated before, and richly diapered; his arms are covered by sleeves of chain mail with black cuffs studded with yellow, and plate gauntlets upon his hands. The original form of the helmet was conical, as appeared by its profile remaining in the ancient lead-work of the window. A short sword or dagger, with a curiously-formed hilt, is suspended before him from a broad ornamented belt passing round his hips. The other parts of the armour are similar to that hereafter described, but without any gilding; his white spurs are buckled on in the modern fashion. A triangular shield of the arms before described is placed over his head. This shield is painted upon a single piece of glass, and therefore no confusion of colours can have arisen from the ignorance or carelessness of workmen. In the opposite light of the window is the figure of a lady kneeling, dressed in a short kind of jacket, with a train of dark purple, and a very richly ornamented white and yellow undergarment; her headdress consists of a coif or veil of white with a yellow border. Above her head is a helmet supported by a ragged

staff mantled or and ermine, and bearing for a crest a mullet of six points or. These two figures are set in a very rich ground-work of yellow and blue.

The effigy of Sir William de Berdewell still remains in another window, in a very tolerable state of preservation; but some small parts, having been lost, are now supplied from the mutilated remains of other figures of the same kind with which the windows of this church were once richly ornamented. He is represented kneeling upon a stool; his head bare and surrounded by a chaplet of small circular ornaments; he wears a long beard and moustaches; his guipon is ornamented with circles enclosing cinquefoils coloured yellow, and its skirt is deeply indented in the form of leaves. His limbs are completely cased in plate armour, except at the bend of the elbows and knees, the heel, and lower part of the foot, which parts are defended by mail only; the elbow and knee-caps are of very simple construction, fluted and gilt; his spurs, which are yellow, have the shank bent at an abrupt curve, and inserted into two staples or rings fixed to each heel; his left hand is elevated and open, whilst his right supports a spear. A small triangular shield hangs from his neck by a narrow strap, bearing Gules, a goat salient arg. armed and unguled or. A very long and broad sword depends from a highly ornamented girdle; and his helmet, the greater part of which is now lost, appears at his side. Above this figure is a shield of the arms of Berdewell as before, surmounted by the helmet and crest—viz., on a wreath a goat's head couped Ar. armed or; opposite to which, in the other light of the window is a similar shield, helmet, and crest of Pakenham, quartering, Or and gules, in the first an eagle displayed argent [it should be vert, another instance of the omission of that colour]. Sir William married Isabel de Pakenham, whose effigy probably completed the paintings in the window I am now describing, but of which no trace remains.

All the figures here described were originally ornamented by small pieces of glass of various colours and forms, cemented to the surface of the plain glass; but the cement used has not been able to preserve them to the present time. Upon a careful examination of the two defective shields, it is very evident they were never so ornamented; and the only supposition that remains is, that the artist who executed these pictures was incapable of producing a green.

A coloured print of Sir William's figure was published in 1805 by William Fowler, of Winterton, Lincolnshire.

The arms still remaining in their original state in the crockets of the windows are as follows:

1. Brotherton; 2. Azure, an inescutcheon within an orle of martlets or; 3. Brotherton, quartering Mowbray; 4. Hastings, quartering De Valence; 5. Lozengy arg. and gules, probably the coat of Tuddenham.

For the pedigree of the family of Berdewell see Blomefield's "Norfolk," under West Herling. J. B.

Beccles.

[1817, *Part II.*, *p.* 105.]

The church of Beccles stands on a point of land overlooking the level of meadows, through which runs the river Waveney, which washes the foot of the declivity whereon it is built. The west end of the church approaches so near the edge of the cliff as not to leave room for a safe foundation of so weighty a structure as the steeple, which is therefore placed at a small distance from the south-east angle of the chancel (see Plate I.).

The present church appears, from a will in the Bishop's Registry Office at Norwich, to have been founded about the year 1369. The porch is a building of a later date, the first legacy given towards it being dated A.D. 1455. The steeple was probably not begun till sixty years afterwards, for there is no legacy bequeathed for it till A.D. 1515. But from that time to 1547 are many legacies towards "building Becclys Stepul."

On November 29, 1586, a dreadful fire broke out in Beccles, which, besides consuming eighty dwelling-houses, greatly injured the roof and seats of the church, though probably not the walls. These damages were shortly after repaired; and though there are accounts of more than one fire having taken place since the last date, it does not appear that the church suffered in any of them.

The church, which now consists of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel, is a handsome fabric, and, with the steeple, a great ornament to the town. The porch, which probably escaped injury from the great fire, is very beautiful, and in the best Gothic style, differing from that either of the church or steeple. The latter is a fine tower of freestone, but appears to have been left incomplete, the height not being proportionate to its size, and a parapet at the top being wanting; whence we are led to the supposition that the intention of the architect was to raise it higher than it is at present.

The arms of Bury Abbey, and those of the families of Garneys, Bowes, Rede, etc., mark the individuals who contributed towards the charges of building the tower.

King Edwy, about the year 956, gave Beccles to St. Edmund, and it continued in the abbey of Bury till the Dissolution, when it was granted to William Ride, Esq. The present patron of the living is Robert Sparrow, Esq., of Worlingham Hall, of whom it is no compliment to say that he is "Uom che all' alta fortuna aggeraglia il merta." T.

Blythburgh.

[1808, *Part II., p.* 776.]

The church at Blythburgh is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and is a very fine structure; the tower is square and plain, but the body is much ornamented; it consists of a nave, chancel, and side-aisles, covered with lead and embrasured; at the east end of the chancel is placed a well-executed crowned figure, in stone, intended to represent the Trinity. The church is kept in a very bad state; many of its fine windows are closed with red bricks; the carvings on the roof, consisting of angels bearing shields, on which are painted the arms of divers benefactors to the church, are in such a condition that they are continually falling. An altar-tomb in the chancel (one of those engraved for Gardiner's "History of Dunwich") now serves as a base for two or three clumsy square columns of bricks; so that the deceased, whatever he might have been in his lifetime, is now unquestionably a firm supporter of the church. The other tomb, engraved by Gardiner, is at the east end of the north aisle, and seems now to serve as a depository for filth and dirt, for the upper slab has been broken across in two places, and the middle piece lost.

In the front of two pews, near the last tomb, are little figures, eighteen in number, representing the Apostles, etc.

At the west end of the middle aisle is an old dial, with the little figure of a man who used to strike time on a bell (now cracked), in the manner the figures do at St. Dunstan's, in Fleet Street. Under the dial is this, painted on wood:

"As the hours pass away,
So doth ye life of man decay.
1682."

On the walks near this town Toby Gill, a black drummer belonging to Sir Robert Rich's regiment, was executed for the murder of Ann Blakemore, for which he was tried at the Bury Assizes in August, 1750. D. Davis.

[1813, *Part II., pp.* 313, 314.]

In the road between Yoxford and Beccles, in the county of Suffolk, is the village of Blythburgh, where was a small college of black canons, called Præmonstratensians; some fragments of the walls only remain, but the church is entire, large, and handsome. Some time ago the windows were full of painted glass; but a few years since a tempestuous wind drove in several of the windows, and totally destroyed the curious remains of antiquity which were in them. Parts of some of the windows yet possess remains of these ornaments.

This was a cell to St. Osyth, or Chiche, in Essex; was founded by Henry I., further endowed by Richard Beauveyes, Bishop of London, and received a confirmation from King Richard I. Soon

after the Dissolution it was granted to Sir Arthur Hopton. It now belongs to the family of Blois. It seems no provision was made for a clergyman: and he receives so scanty an allowance that, in a parish containing 363 persons according to the return in 1801, 438 by the return in 1811, divine service is performed but once a fortnight, by a curate who resides at a distance of six miles! Has the bishop no power in such a case? If he has not, it is to be hoped that Parliament, under the very laudable care which they are exerting for the benefit of the Church, will find some mode of making a provision for such cases.

On visiting this church lately, we observed a large chest, strongly bound with iron; the sexton opened the lid, when it appeared to be half full of loose papers. Our curiosity tempted us to look at some of them, when we found many single sheets of paper, containing registers of marriages, christenings, and burials, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. How far they extended our time did not allow us to examine; but it is much to be hoped that this may find its way to the notice of the clergyman, and that he may collect these Sibylline leaves, and have them properly bound and taken care of. They may be of the utmost importance to some families.

Amongst these papers was one containing some parish accounts 35 Henry VIII., a copy of which accompanies this:

Received of the plowghe chirch ale, xxvs.
Received and gathered by Lawrance Crane, on Xmas, for sexton's wages, vijs.
Received of Thomas Martin, of two kyen for his year, iijs.
Received for mens chirch ale, xxxs.
Received and gathered upon Easter Day of the Paschal, vijs.
Received of Thomas Smith, of the fearme of one cow this year, viijs.
Paid for washing the church linen, ivs.
for two new banyore stavis,* xijd.
for one other banyar staffe, viijd.
for rent for the church house standing in the churchyard, being unpaid six years,† vjd.
the rent for one half of a close for six years, vid.
an organ maker for his coming and seying, and little mending, of the quere organ, xxd.
candles, Xmas day in the morning, ijd.
the sexton, for his wages for the whole year, xxs.
for wax for the Paschal, xviijd.
for making the Paschal‡ and the Towell . . . .

G. and B.

* These were for banners of saints, used at funerals.
† This house was standing within memory, but is now destroyed.
‡ Query, does this mean making the wax tapers?

Brightwell.

[1829, *Part II., pp.* 209, 210.]

The following topographical notes respecting Brightwell, in Suffolk, are from a manuscript of the time of Charles II., presented to the College of Arms in 1803 by the late Lord Thurlow.

"In Brightwell was an antient seat of the family of Jermy, of knights' degree. Francis Jermy was High Sheriff of Suffolk about the year 1587. It was afterwards in the family of Hewett. Sir William Hewett, Knight, sold it to Sir Anthony Wingfield, of Letheringham, Bart. Sir Richard Wingfield, son of Sir Anthony, sold it to Thomas Essington, Esq., a merchant, who lives in it this yeare (1655), and was since High Sheriff of Suffolk (1657).

"In 1594 Mr. Tillotson found these arms in the Church: Gules, three ducal crowns Or (Bishoprick of Ely). Gules, three chevrons Or, impaling, Argent, a fess nebule Gules between six crosses botone fitche. Argent, on a bend engrailed Sable, three rammes heads cabosed of the 1st, 'the last I saw there anno 1662, but no other.' Thomas Essington, Esq., hath repaired, at his owne charge, the almost ruined Church (see Plate II.), built anew the steeple, and in a comely sort, built seats in the Churche and chancel. Under the chancel is a very faire vault, on the mouth whereof lies a marble, which hath engraven on it 'the Essingtons' vault.' In the chancel bee two small monuments of alabaster, exceedingly comely and faire, which were the work of a German, whose ancestors were Italians. The smallest, on the south side, is for Thomas Essington, who was borne April 10th, 1652, and dyed August 26th, 1656. The other at the east end is for Anne Essington, who dyed Sept. 11, 1660, in the yeare of her age 17. These were two of the children of Thomas Essington, Esq., and of Anne his wife, who was daughter of John Janson of Ashbye Ledger, in Northamptonshire, Esq. Their children yet (1662) living be John, Martha, and Samuel.

"Brightwell Hall is a faire and large house, built of brick. I saw this yeare (1662) therein several coats of arms, among which were De la Pole, Azure, a fess between three leopards' faces Or, quartering Fitz Alan. Gules, a lion rampant Or, quartering Scroop. Argent, two lions passant Gules. Ermine, a bend countercompone Argent and Sable, impaling Mowbray. Argent, three bears' heads couped Gules; impaling Argent, a fess between two chevrons Gules. Argent, on a bend engrailed Sable three rammes heads cabosed of the 1st, armed Or, impaling Andrew. Argent, on a bend cottized Sable, three mullets as the 1st. These, with others, in another window in the Hall. John Cavell was seated at Brightwell Hall in Suffolk, and left Agnes his sole daughter and heiress, married to —— Lampet, *circa* 1 Edw. II."

To the foregoing may be added that the fretwork is beautifully

varied on each side of the octagon font (see the Plate). The date on the communion plate is 1651.

The Barnardiston family succeeding that of Essington were for many years lords of this domain, as were another branch of the family (the most ancient of the equestrian dignity in the kingdom, having flourished in a direct line for twenty-seven generations), of the estate and seat at Kedington, or Ketton in Suffolk. About the year 1730 Brightwell Hall was taken down, on the site of part of which is a farmhouse. The property afterwards passed to the family of Shaw; then to John Vernon, Esq., who died in May, 1818; subsequently to Sir Robert Harland, of Nacton and Wherstead, Bart., in whose possession, in health and prosperity, may it long remain.

A very curious and scarce print, 1 foot $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches by 1 foot $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, engraved by J. Kip, from a drawing of Knyff, gives a bird's-eye view of the mansion, the out-buildings, plantations, and a large piece of water attached to it. Of this I have a drawing by Mr. Isaac Johnson, of Woodbridge; a water-coloured drawing from an elevated spot on the south side of the village leading to Nacton, copied from an oil-painting by Mr. Constable, of Upper Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, in possession of Sir Robert Harland; and an oval engraved portrait of Sir Samuel Barnardiston, by R. White, in 1700. This gentleman, styled in his burial-entry "the Honourable," born 1620, was a conspicuous character in his county, and died November, 1707, without issue. He married, first, a daughter of Joseph Brand, of Edwardstone, co. Suffolk, Esq.; secondly, Mary, daughter of Sir Abraham Reynaldson, Knt., Lord Mayor of London. His hatchment remains at the farmhouse, on which, between the two impaled coats, are the following bearings: fourthly (1), Azure, a fess dauncette ermine, between six cross crosslets argent (Barnardiston); (2), Gules, a lion rampant, double-queued, or (Havering); (3), Vert, a saltire engrailed or (Franke); (4), Sable, three combs, 2 and 1, argent (Tunstall).

Thomas Barnardiston, Esq., resident at Bury St. Edmunds, in or very soon after 1700, married Mary, daughter of Sir George Downing, of Gamlingay, in Cambridgeshire, Bart., whose daughter married Edward Goate, Esq., of Brent Illeigh Hall, near Lavenham, which seat and estate devolved eventually to Mary (their daughter) wife of John Ranby, Esq., who died January 3, 1814, a lady whose very elegant manners and various good qualities rendered her during many years the distinguished ornament of Bury and its neighbourhood. The title of baronet became extinct by the death of Sir John Barnardiston in 1745. The name survives in Nathaniel Barnardiston, Esq., of Rye Hall in Essex, near Sudbury, and of Hertford Street, May Fair, in London. F. H. Turnor Barnwell.

Bungay.

[1809, *Part II.*, *p.* 1165.]

The old Market-cross at Bungay, which has borne the pelting storms of many a winter, has lately been doomed to be superseded by a new building.

[1810, *Part I.*, *p.* 425.]

The town of Bungay has been long ornamented with two handsome market crosses; and, it being in contemplation to take one of them down shortly, I was desirous of preserving a representation of this old servant of the public (see Plate II., Fig 1). It is called The Corn Cross, from its being formerly used to place grain in for public sale. Its form is a regular octagon. The distance between the eight supporting pillars is, from the middle of the base of one to the middle of the base of the next, eight feet. The height of each pillar is eight feet five inches; and its circumference, two feet ten inches. The roof, which is of strong timber, is excellently covered with lead, and ornamented with a column, on the top of which is a ball and weathercock; these latter appear to have been gilt formerly. The milestone, placed on one side, is fourteen miles from Norwich. . . .

Plate II., Fig. 2, appears to be the Town Token, and has escaped the observation of Snelling, as it is not in his list. On one side is the castle, originally founded by Hugh Bigot. The inscription, "Biggots in Bongay"; on the reverse, "For change, not fraude"; in the centre, T. T. supposed to be Town Trust; date 1664.

Fig. 3, "Henry Webster in" "Bungay, draper, 67."

Fig. 4, "Thomas Walcott" "of Bungey, 1660."

Fig. 5, "Thomas Nowell" "in Bungay, 1660."

Here are still remaining some ruins of the Benedictine Nunnery, founded by Roger de Glanvile and the Countess Gundreda his wife. The enclosed will add to a miscellaneous plate, and represents the seal of the above convent (see Fig. 6). It was taken from a deed "from the Prioress and Convent in Bungay, to Sir John de Norwich," dated 33 Edward III., anno 1360. This deed was, a few years since, in the possession of a late worthy magistrate of this town, Thomas Manning, Esq. The engraving I send you was made at his request; and, I believe, was never made public, except amongst his friends. The inscription is "Sigillum sanctimonialium Domus sanctæ Crucis de Bungeya." AMICUS.

Bury St. Edmunds.

[1772, *p.* 92.]

Some workmen who were recently employed in the ruins of the abbey at St. Edmund's Bury found a leaden coffin, made after the ancient custom, exactly the shape of the body. This had been

enclosed in an oak case, which, by length of time, was decayed, but the lead remained quite perfect. Upon close examination, it was found to be the body of Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, uncle to Henry V., and deposited in 1427. On opening the lead, the flesh, hair, and toe and hand nails, were as perfect and sound as though he had not been dead six hours.

A surgeon in the neighbourhood made an incision on the breast, and declares the flesh cut as firm as in a living subject, and there was even an appearance of blood; multitudes of people were present and saw the same. At this time the corpse was not in the least noisome, but being exposed to the air, it presently became putrid and offensive. The workmen coming early the next morning, resolved to make prize of the lead, and therefore cut out the corpse, tumbled it into a hole near at hand, and threw the dirt on it. The lead was conveyed directly to the plumbers, and there sold for twenty-two shillings. Thus, in Shakespeare's phrase, was a great man knocked about the sconce with a dirty shovel.

[1780, *p.* 421.]

The following sheets, mentioned by Dr. Rawlinson and Mr. Gough, in their catalogues of "British Topography," being now extremely scarce, may be worth preserving in your valuable repository.

X. Y.

Notes concerning St. Edmund's Bury, in Com. Suffolk. Extracted out of the Right Honourable the Earl of Oxford's library, by Mr. Wanley.

In very ancient times one Beodric was owner of the ground where the abbey and town of Bury St. Edmund was afterwards built, from which Beodric the village (then very small) was called Beoðricer þorþe, *i.e.*, Beodrici Villa, and his demesne lands were the fields adjacent to the town of Bury, which appertained afterwards to the office (as I remember) of the Celerar. Upon the foundation of the monastery by K. Cnut, the old name came to be soon out of use, and the place to be called Bupgh.

This abbey being in process of time richly endowed, even with the lands of fifty-two knights' fees and three-quarters of a fee, with eight hundreds and an half (besides later purchases and benefactions) drew great numbers of people to it, who, building upon the soil of the monastery, were tenants thereunto, depended upon it, and were governed thereby both in temporals and spirituals, although in another respect they constituted the community of the town or borough of Bury.

As to spirituals (I only crave leave to mention it, by-the-by), the banleuca, or immediate liberty of the monastery, which (I believe)

extended to the Four Crosses of Bury, was a sort of diocese. For the Lord Abbat (who was always a lord of parliament as holding *per baroniam*, his share of the manors, etc., being called "baronia et honor Sancti Edmundi") was also mitred, and exempt from all jurisdiction episcopal, archiepiscopal, and legatine, except that of a legat *de latere*. Wills were proved in his court, and in most cases he acted as *episcopus loci*. He had an archidiaconus S. Edmundi, who was sacristor sexteyn of the monastery, and a rural dean or *decanus christianitatis*, both obedient to him; together with above forty clergymen officiating in the churches and chapels of the town, and the hospitals, besides fourscore monks and fifteen chaplains in the abbey; and of these consisted the synod, when the abbat summoned them in their form; and they deliberated together upon important matters, and made their synodical constitutions, which were to bind them.

In matters temporal they were almost entirely governed by the abbat and his officers, as may, in part, appear by some of these following citations.

"Abbas et conventus clamant, quòd nulla secularis persona aut minister regis in aliquo se intromittat de prædicto burgo, nisi iidem abb. et conv. aut eorum ministri; per cartam Henrici primi," 60 C. 9, fol. 9.

"Inquisitio capia apud Sanctum Eadmundum, anno 20 Edw. I. —Cùm ad abbatem S. Eadmundi dominium ejusdem villæ, et non ad alium, in omnibus pertineat, aldermannum et ballivos facere pro voluntate suâ, et eos amovere; burgenses quendam Johannem le Orfevere ballivum fecerunt, et quantum in eis est, aldermannum constituerunt, etc.—Item, cùm custodia prædictæ villæ ad abbatem pertineat, tam portarum quàm rerum aliarum, burgenses nuper quendam Robertum de Wlpet assignatum per abbatem ad portas australes custodiendas amoverunt, in læsionem libertatis, etc.—Jurati dicunt—quòd Johannes le Orfevere—prædictas transgressiones et injurias prædicto abbati fecerunt"—42 B. 8, fol. 15; 60 C. 9, voc. Bury.

"Johannes de Hocwolde nunc [*i.e.*, anno 30 Edw. 1], aldermannus villæ de S. Edmundo fecit homagium dicto [Thomæ de Totingtone] Domino abbati pro se et communitate villæ prædictæ, die jovis [in] Virgiliâ sancti Matthæi Apostoli—in aulâ dicti abbatis apud S. Edmundum: et post fecit eidem sidelitatem; et omnes burgenses consimiliter, prout moris est," 36 C. 13, fol. 60.

"The abbat constituted the high steward, or *seneschallus libertatis*, and the constable," etc., *Ibid.*, fol. 67, b. "As also his justices or judges ad inquirend. audiend, et terminand.—Felonia et transgressiones, conspirationes et cambiparcias contra pacem domini regis in villâ S U A de Sancto Edmundo." *Ibid.*, fol. 68 b, fol. 73 b, fol. 81 b. "Moreover, he had his justices *de trailebaston* (if they

were not the same with the former) who had power to punish the contumacious, or excommunicated persons." *Ibid.*, fol. 82 b.

"Asserit contra [Eliensen Episcopum] Abbas S. Edmundi et sui, quòd—omnia quæ vicecomes Norff. et Suff. enet et terminat in comitatibus suis; sic et ipse infra hundreda sua: et in Seysina est. Item, quòd ipse habet returnum omnium brevium domini regis, quæ tangunt libertates suas et existentia infra eas. Et ipse et ballivi sui debent ea exequi, et nullus alius, nisi pro defectu suo; quia ipse solus habet warrentum tam de attachiamentis—et summonitionibus, et consimilibus: et in Seysina est.—Item, quòd nec placita coronæ—nec aliqua executio regii mandati de quo ipse solus habet warrentum, scilicet returnum brevis—ad aliquem spectant infra dictâ hundredâ, nisi ad Abbatem solum." 36 C. 13, fol. 122; 60 C. 9, fol. 18 b; 36 C. 13, fol. 153, 154; 60 C. 9, fol. 23 b.

"Item [Abbas et Conventus] clamant, quòd nullus justiciarius, vicecomes, eschaetor, coronator, senescallus, aut marescallus domini regis infra dictum burgum sedeat, placitum teneat, aut aliquod officium exerceat; per exemplificationem Edwardi III." 60 C. 9, fol. 18, fol. 22, b.

"Et vicecomes Norff. et Suff. modò mandat quod præcepit Radulpho de Bockynge senescallo libertatis Sancti Edmundi, qui habet returnum omnium brevium et præceptorum de quibuscunque rebus exequendis infra libertatem prædictam." *Ibid.*, fol. 21 b.

So far to show (in some measure) how extensive the power was which the abbat used and legally exercised within his liberty, of which the town of Bury was a part.

On the other side:

"Josceline de Brackelonde in his 'Chronicon,' or life of Abbat Sampson" (a tract highly deserving to be published), "writeth, that in a contest between the abbat and the townsmen of Bury, they made use of this expression: 'à tempore quo villa Sancti Eadmundi nomen et libertatem burgi accepit.'" 63 D. 6, fol. 117, et *vid.* fol. 149. Yet here I cannot think that the *libertas burgi* was granted unto them by royal patent, but rather by their mesne lords, the abbats.

For although it appeareth by the inquisition above cited that the townsmen pretended to keep or hold a gildhall, the abbat (and the country too, I mean the jury) found and deem'd those assemblies to be but conventicles.

The same "Josceline," fol. 142 b. and 143, hath another odd expression concerning these townsmen: "Decimo anno abbatiæ Sampsonis Abbatis" [*i.e.*, *circa* A.D. 1192]. "Bergenses summoniti responderunt, se esse in assisa regis, nec de tenementis quæ illi et patres eorum tenuerunt bene et in pace uno anno et uno die sine calumniâ se velle respondere contra Libertatem Villæ et

Cartas suas." Libertatem villæ et cartas suas are great words; and yet I cannot include a corporation-grant in them: for I find that the abbats Anselm, Ording, and Hugh, before this Sampson, made divers grants to these their burgesses; but I find not the least mention of any from the Crown, or the least mention of them as a corporation, although I have taken good pains with eight abbey books of that monastery now in your lordship's library, and run through your fine calendar to the records in the tower. The sites and lands of all monasteries, and the liberties thereunto belonging, being vested in the Crown, by two statutes, viz., 31 Henry VIII., cap. 13, and 32 Henry VIII., cap. 20, and the crown having since made many grants of the sites of monasteries and their ancient liberties; I should be glad to know who hath the legal possession of the site of this abbey, and whether he hath not all the old liberties, franchises, privileges, etc., conveyed unto him, and consequently the return of the king's writs, as the abbats had. H. W.

[1783, *Part II., pp.* 900, 901.]

1. Translations of Three Authentic Registers of the Monastery of St. Edmund's Bury, Formerly Kept by the Sacrist.

"This indenture certifies that Master John Swaffham, sacrist of the monastery of St. Edmund's Bury, with the consent and permission of the prior and convent of the same, hath demised and to farm let to Simeon Lolepeke, of Bury aforesaid, yeoman, the manor called Habyrdon in Bury aforesaid, etc., to have and to hold for the term of seven years, etc., paying yearly, etc. And the said Simeon, his executors and assigns, shall find or cause to be found one white bull every year of his term as often as it shall happen that any gentlewoman (mulierem generosam) or any other women, from devotion or vows by them made, shall visit the tomb of the glorious king and martyr St. Edmund, to make the oblations of the said white bull, etc. In witness whereof, to one part the seal of the sacrist is affixed, etc. Dated the 4th day of June, in the 2nd year of the reign of King Henry, King of England, the seventh since the conquest."

2. Another Register of the said Monastery.

"This indenture, made the 12th day of September, in the 11th year of the reign of King Henry VIII., between Master John Eye, sacrist of the monastery of St. Edmund's Bury, and Richard Skinner, of Bury aforesaid, husbandman, certifies that the aforesaid John Eye, with the consent, etc., hath demised and to farm let to the aforesaid Richard the manor of Habyrdon, etc., for the term of ten years, etc. And the said Richard shall find one white bull as often as it shall happen," etc., as before.

3. Another Original Instrument, with the Capitular Seal of the Monastery Annexed.

"This indenture certifies that we, John, by Divine permission, abbot of the monastery of St. Edmund's, Bury, with the consent and permission of the prior and convent of the same, have demised and to farm let to Robert Wright, glazier, and to John Anable, pewterer, of Bury aforesaid, our manor of Habyrdon, with the appurtenances pertaining to the office of sacrist of our said monastery, etc., to hold from the seat of St. Michael the Archangel next ensuing after the date of these presents, for the term of twenty years, etc., paying yearly to the said abbot and his successors, for the use of the office of sacrist, £20 4s., etc. And the said Robert and John shall find one white bull every year of the aforesaid term, as often as it shall happen that any gentlewoman, or any other women, from devotion or vows by them made, shall visit the shrine of the glorious king and martyr St. Edmund, to make the oblations of the said white bull, etc. In witness whereof to one part of this indenture remaining with the above-named abbot, prior and convent, the said Robert and John have affixed their seals, and to the other part remaining with the said Robert and John, we the above-named abbot, prior and convent, have caused the common seal of our chapter to be affixed. Given in our chapter-house the xxviiith day of April, in the xxvth year of King Henry the Eighth, and in the year of our Lord, 1533."

The waxen impression, still perfect, has on the face St. Edmund sitting on a royal throne, with a bishop standing on each side; on the reverse, he is bound to a tree and transfixed with arrows. Below, in another compartment, is the body of St. Edmund, headless; and near it a wolf, bringing back the royal head to restore it to the body. The instrument is thus indorsed: "Irrotulatur per me, Walterum Mildemey." A transcript of this sealed indenture remains in the court of augmentations.

Whenever a married woman wished to be pregnant, this white bull, who enjoyed full ease and plenty in the fields of Habyrdon, never meanly yoked to the plough, nor ever cruelly baited at the stake, was led in procession through the principal streets of the town, viz., Church Street, Guildhall Street, and Cook Row, of which the last led to the principal gate of the monastery, attended by all the monks singing, and a shouting crowd, the woman walking by him, and stroking his milk-white side and pendant dewlaps. The bull then being dismissed, the woman entered the church, and paid her vows at the altar of St. Edmund, kissing the stone, and intreating with tears the blessing of a child. This reminds one of the Luperci among the Romans, who ran naked about the streets, and with thongs of goatskins struck women with child in order to give easy labour (Virg., "Æn.," viii. 663).

The above are extracted from the "Corolla Varia" of the Rev. William Hawkins, M.A.,* schoolmaster, of Hadleigh, in Suffolk, an entertaining and classical, but now scarce, publication, printed at Cambridge in 1634.† It consists of 1. Eclogæ tres Virgilianæ declinatæ; Tityrus, ad Pestifugium; Pollio, ad Postliminium; Gallus, ad Fastidium. 2. Corydon. Aufuga sive ἱεροξενοδοχια Pastorilia Accipiendo Reverendo Patri ac domino Joanni Episcopo Roffensi per binos Scholæ Hadleianæ Alumnos recitato. April 9, 1632. 3. Nisis verberans et vapulans decantatus per Musas vergiferas, juridicas.

The occasion of the latter was briefly this: The three sons of a Mr. Colman, of Payton Hall (Carbonius et Carbunculi) being admitted at Hadleigh school, one of them in less than two years, unprovoked and unthreatened, ran away; but a few months after, in the absence of the master and scholars, thought proper to enter the schoolroom and filthily bedaub a wooden horse, used for the purpose of flagellation. He was seen, however, by one of the boys, and boasted of it afterwards to others. A week after, accompanied by a relation, he returned to repeat his prank, but was then detected by his master, who very properly chastised him, but gently, giving him only four lashes. For this assault (as it was termed) an action was brought against him by the father at Bury assizes, and the damages were laid at £40. This action Mr. Hawkins was obliged to defend at great trouble and expense, and at last, before issue was joined, the plaintiff withdrew his plea. All the circumstances of this case, the law process, etc., are described with great elegance and humour, and several commendatory poems are prefixed.

[1784, *Part I.*, *p.* 14.]

The singular seal described in the foregoing article is delineated on the accompanying plate, Fig. 1. A. W.

The ornament is the centre, and round the outer rim of the basin now before me, which was picked up at Bury St. Edmunds, exactly resembles that of the Soulston and other basins. There are two circles of inscriptions. Both the inner and the outer are in such a type as the corresponding one at Southstone. The first consists of the following words five times repeated: AZLETT. ICH. BART. GELUK. —implying that this dish brings good luck, which, if it served as a paten, means salvation; if as a basin to collect alms, such as I have seen used in the churches in Wales, means relief to the poor (see Fig. 5). D. H.

[1798, *Part II.*, *p.* 761.]

Of Bury "Cantab" thus writes:

"Three friends and myself got to Bury in the evening, and went

* He styles himself Nisus. See Ovid, "Met.," l. 8.

† It appears by the register of Hadleigh that "Mr. William Hawkins, Curate, was buried June 29, 1637."

the same night to the play, which, as it was then the height of the fair, was acted every night. Here I met our fellow-collegiate, who pressed me much to go home with him, but I could not leave my fellow-travellers. The next morning we walked about the town, which is the prettiest I ever saw. The streets all cut each other at right angles, and are very neat and spacious; the houses grand and belonging to many of the nobility and gentry. On the whole, Bury seems deservedly called the Montpelier of England. The fair, too, seems to be very justly termed the politest in the kingdom for the company that frequents it. The Duke of Grafton, Lord Cornwallis, Lord Hervey, are the constant ornaments of this fair, besides an innumerable concourse of knights and esquires, with their wives and daughters, from Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, and all parts of Suffolk."

[1802, *Part II.*, *p.* 1177.]

Enclosed is a sketch of a bottle found some years ago in a vault under the ruins of the old abbey church at Bury St. Edmunds, in Suffolk. It is said this grand monastery was built in 1028. The bottle appears to be composed of a fine light-red earth, and of very hard consistence; and the drawing is a pretty exact representation of it. J. O.

[1819, *Part I.*, *p.* 105.]

After the many explicit and able illustrations of the Saxon tower, now used as a steeple to St. James's Church in this town, which have appeared in different publications, particularly in Britton's "Architectural Antiquities," it may appear presumptuous in me to advert again to that perfect specimen of the talents of our ancestors.

I am, however, induced to send you a sketch of this building (see Plate I.), in consequence of the apprehensions which have long existed being considerably increased, that this structure is in so dilapidated a state that its existence depends on the precautions necessary for its preservation.

On the 5th of last month, as it is customary, the bells were rung in commemoration of the day. Soon after a peal had ceased a considerable portion of the grand arch, on the east side of the gateway, suddenly fell down; the fallen stones fortunately separated from their long abode without injury to any person, but it caused much alarm. The part which fell is the arch springing from the capital of the third column, of which there are four on each side; not more than a third, however, is seen in the etching, being concealed by an arch or moulding, which springs from the second capital and corresponding in shape and size to the one alluded to. About thirty of these large stones, which are at once the ornament and support of this noble arch, were in a moment displaced. Another visible injury on this

front of the tower is two immense cracks, from the very top to the lower or grand arch. . . .

When these stones fell it so happened that one of the most eminent and experienced architects of the present day was amongst those who lamented the event and condemned the cause, which he considered to arise from the vibration and weight of the bells, which were very improperly placed therein about thirty years since, and that unless the ringing is discontinued, his opinion is that the whole fabric is in danger. The annexed etching is done by Mr. H. Davy, whose residence in Bury is for the purpose of taking subjects for the interesting work which he has announced for publication, of "Illustrations of the Architectural Antiquities of Suffolk.". . .

I cannot help intimating to you and your numerous admirers of antiquity that a gentleman (Mr. Benjafield) who occupies the very site upon which the interesting abbey church stood, where the body of the Martyr St. Edmund was deposited, has been excavating the soil many yards in extent and feet in depth; by so doing the foundations of buildings were discovered, of which no record is to be found. . . . ANTIQUARIUS.

[1821, *Part I.*, *p.* 67.]

The workmen of Mr. Stevens, surveyor, of Bury St. Edmunds, whilst raising gravel in the hill near the Priory, have discovered at a small depth from the surface of the earth the skeletons of twenty-four human bodies of rather gigantic size, but in every respect perfect. Numerous persons have been to view them, and it is supposed that they are a part of the bodies slain in the bloody battle fought on that spot during the reign of Henry II., and when the differences existed between that monarch and his son, when, to aid the latter, the Earl of Leicester was marching through Fornham from Framlingham with an immense army of Flemings, principally artificers and weavers, but were attacked by the King's troops, who dispersed them in an instant, and put 10,000 of them to the sword, and took their commander prisoner. The engagement took place in 1174, upwards of 600 years since.

[1826, *Part I.*, *p.* 497.]

The ancient sword (Plate II., Fig. 2) was found more than forty years ago in cleansing part of the river Lark between Bury St. Edmunds and Mildenhall in Suffolk, and is in the possession of Sir Thomas Grey Cullam, Bart. It is 2 feet in length, wanting half an inch.

We have been kindly informed by the great oracle in these matters, Dr. Meyrick, that it is an ancient British sword, termed *cleddyv*. It is formed of a composition of copper and tin, a fact that enables us to assign it to the Britons, for the Roman swords and

those of the inhabitants of the shores of the Baltic at the periods of their respective invasions were of steel. The old Welsh adage, "He who has the horn (meaning the handle) has the blade," shows us of what material the hilt was originally made, and the three pins seen in the engraving explain in what mode the two pieces were fastened one on each side.

[1829, *Part I., p.* 393.]

The accompanying view (see Plate I.) represents an ancient bridge or arches over a watercourse, formerly existing at Bury St. Edmunds, generally known by the name of the Abbot's Bridge, and called by some writers the Saxon Bridge, or East Gate Bridge.

The remains of this very antique bridge are situate at the north-east corner of the abbey, and consist of three arches, which are on one side Saxon and on the other Gothic. The formation of the inner part also of these arches attracts the attention of the curious, as they are made in an unusual manner, and still retain the appearance of having had iron gates by way of defence.

In the inside of the wall of this bridge is a passage that leads to the east gate of the town, of which the Lord Abbot had the charge.

"These arches (says Grose, who gave a view of it as it appeared in 1777) are in the wall forming the eastern boundary of the abbey precinct, and were constructed either during the time of Abbot Anselm, who died 1148, by Radulphus and Harveus, the sacrists, who built the lofty wall that surrounds the court of the abbey, of which the chief part is still entire, and, joining to the north end of the arches, seems a continuation thereof; or else by Robert de Gravel, sacrist during the abbacy of Sampson, who died 1221, he having purchased the vineyard and surrounded it with a wall. These arches, serving to connect the two walls, or rather being part of one of them, must have been built at the same time, and in all likelihood with the first mentioned.

"They seem not only calculated to give passage to the water, but also to form an occasional foot-bridge, by means of joists and planks laid from buttress to buttress, through which there are passages, the greatest distance being scarcely more than 24 feet. Contiguous to the northernmost buttress was the east gate, since pulled down. This gate was always in the custody of the abbot; near it was a chapel of St. Nicholas, so that it seems very probable a bridge would be wanting here for the use of the monks and servants of the abbey. On the west side, within the walls, another set of arches appear, evidently formed for a footbridge, about 5 feet broad. These arches, which appear beneath those on the east side, have a very singular effect, and are by some thought of the more ancient construction."

Another view of this ancient bridge, from a drawing by the

Rev. W. Yates, has been some time engraved for the second part of the Rev. Dr. Yates's "History of Bury.". . . H.

[1842, *Part II.*, *pp.* 302, 303.]

Norman Tower at Bury.

Mr. Cottingham having removed the plaster and modern patch-work with which it had been vainly attempted to conceal, rather than repair, the cracks and flaws in the Gatehouse at Bury St. Edmunds, its defects have been laid bare in their formidable reality. It appears that the two south piers have sunk very considerably; that to the east is at least 17½ inches out of the perpendicular. This, it is feared, has been occasioned by the drifting away of the soil on which it stands by some springs. The south-western pier is nearly as much out of the perpendicular, occasioned, it has been ascertained, by the foundations of the cellars of the adjoining house being sunk between 6 and 7 feet below the foundations of the tower. The ashlar of the lateral walls in the interior is split from the top to the bottom, and several of the south arches are in a very unsound state. But it is on the eastern front that the danger is the greatest and the mischief most apparent. The entire masonry, from the embattled parapet to the arch of entrance, appears struggling to leave its place. The mouldings of the string-courses have given way, and are crushing in the ribs of the arches below them; and the whole façade rests entirely on the slender archivolt of the great arch, where, in the winter of 1818, thirty of the principal stones fell to the ground. At that period, though the archway was repaired by replacing the fallen stones, the danger was in no degree removed. The cracks in the superstructure were merely filled up, in some places scarcely to the depth of an inch, with cement; and the falling out of this cement has exposed the deception, and the fearful progress of the mischief which was hidden by it. Of the manner in which the arches in the upper stories of the tower have been, not bolstered *up*, but bolstered *out*, by past "repairs," it will give some idea to state that Mr. Cottingham has removed not less than 100 tons of brick, stone, and rubbish, which not only added nothing to the security of the building, but tended materially to press it more and more out of its balance. In the west front he has cleared a beautiful open gallery above the pediment, of the existence of which few, perhaps, were aware, and he has also reopened the upper windows, which were built up. Within the archway, the soil has accumulated to the height of 5 feet, or rather more, above the original level. The excavation which has been made has opened to view a doorway within the gateway, in the south wall, with a lintel cut out of solid stone. The contrivance by which the Norman flooring of the first story was thrown across the tower has also been developed. On the erection of the massive

lateral walls, equilateral spaces were left in the ashlaring on one side for the insertion of the beams, to be thrown across the archway, and on the other side oblong spaces between 2 and 3 feet high, into which the beams were dropped to their level. This plan of flooring furnished the old builders with great facilities for the repair of the floor; and avoided the necessity for those unsightly trusses which modern carpentry has introduced. An old oak beam, which had been inserted in the thickness of the wall behind the caissons for the ends of the floor beams, has been found, but in a state of complete rottenness.

Mr. Cottingham is confident that the tower may be restored to its former strength, and to the purpose for which it has been latterly employed, of containing the bells of St. James' Church, provided they be properly supported below, instead of, as at present, bearing with all their rack and pressure on the top of the building. It gives us great pleasure to hear that a warm interest has been taken in the restoration of the tower by noblemen and gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood. Sir Thomas Cullum, of whom the premises between the tower and St. James's Church are held as copyhold by Messrs. Lenny and Croft, has, in the most liberal manner, offered to give up his right and interest in the same, should those gentlemen consent to dispose of the premises to aid the projected restoration.

Mr. Gage Rokewode, in his notes to the Chronicle of Joceline de Brakelond (recently edited for the Camden Society), has noticed this tower in the following terms: "The magnificent Norman gatehouse at the entrance of the churchyard, still standing, is distinguished by the monastic writers from the campanile or belfry, under the name of the Great Gate of the Church of St. Edmund, or the Great Gate of the Churchyard, and was probably the work of Harvey, the sacrist in the time of Anselm, seventh abbot, 1121-1136. This gatehouse, now converted into a belfry, was certainly not used for that purpose until after the fall of the bell-tower in 1430, and probably not until after the destruction of the Monastic Church, as the bell-tower would seem to have been rebuilt. Joceline de Brakelond, describing Abbot Samson's first reception into the abbey, after his election on Palm Sunday, March 21, 1182, states that he caused his shoes to be taken off before this gate, and entered the abbey precinct barefoot. An account is also extant of the solemn reception of King Henry VI. here, in 1433. It was, in fact, the principal entrance of the Abbey of St. Edmund."

[1843, *Part I., pp.* 521, 522.]

Mr. L. N. Cottingham, F.S.A., has published a very interesting print, 26 inches by 17, giving a north-west view of the abbey gate, original boundary wall, and parish churches of St. James and St. Mary in the olden time. The print is embellished with numerous

groups in ancient costume. How additionally beautiful must have been the scene with the abbey church of St. Edmund rising up in the centre, with the numerous other surrounding abbatial buildings!

[1846, *Part I.*, *p.* 519.]

The reparation of the Norman gate-tower at Bury St. Edmunds is now making great progress, and appears to be executed in the most substantial manner. The walls have been taken down 12 feet all round, to the spring of the upper tier of arches, and at the south-east angle 25 feet of the ashlar or stone casing has been removed and replaced, large masses of the rubble core having also been cut out at the fissures and decayed places, and the cavities filled up with solid grouting. The second tier of arches has been turned afresh, with some new key-stones, but, generally speaking, the identical stones have been replaced as nearly as possible in their former situations, so that the work exhibits scarcely a sign (except its restored regularity) of a hand having been recently applied to it. The bonding of the stone-work has been greatly increased, single stones passing through the whole width of the piers to receive the iron ties, which, being let into the stone, will give great strength to the structure.

[1844, *Part II.*, *p.* 633.]

One of the finest restorations recently accomplished is that of the parish church of St. Mary, in Bury St. Edmunds. This church, in the Perpendicular style, the entire measurement of which is 213 feet by 68 feet, is remarkable for the lightness and elegance of its columns, and its roof is the glory of the "open roofs," for which the Suffolk churches are famous. About eighteen months since it was discovered that this incomparable structure was in the greatest peril, the ends of the timbers being rotted off, and the whole weight resting between instead of upon the walls; and the parish having undertaken the substantial repairs of the fabric at an expense of £1,700, the occasion was embraced to remove the intrusions, and to repair the ravages of time as well as the more cruel injuries of a barbarous age. The works included in this undertaking have been: the removal of a gallery, which cut in two the fine vista of the nave; the complete restoration of the carved work of the roof, every figure of which is a specimen of high art; the freeing of the pillars and tracery of the windows from their manifold coats of whitewash, and substantially repairing their defective parts; the entire renewal of the great west window, in which the arms of the neighbouring gentry are inserted; a new window of great beauty over the chancel arch (presented by H. P. Oakes, Esq.), representing the Martyrdom of St. Edmund; a richly carved font in Caen stone (the gift of the patron, J. Fitzgerald, Esq.), a pulpit and lectern, in oak, of great boldness and correct style, to supply the place of a Vitruvian tub and bin in mahogany;

and a door-screen or lobby, elaborately carved, with plate-glass panels; besides the clearing away of various boardings and partitions in different parts of the church, the vestry (formerly one of these) being now conveniently placed in the tower. Some (but not all) of the pews have given place to open seats with poppy-head bench-ends, finely carved by Mr. Nash, by whom the restorations of the roof have also been executed. The whole of the works have been under the direction of Mr. Cottingham, whose research and taste in supplying the deficient parts of the figures is admirable. The cost of these noble performances, exclusive of the parish charge, has been upwards of £2,000, of which sum the subscriptions are as yet full one-third deficient; but it is hoped that the zealous incumbent, the Rev. C. J. P. Eyre, will not be disappointed in his reliance upon the right feeling of the public for the supply required.

Clare.

[1787, *Part II., pp.* 788-790.]

Clare, a market-town in the county of Suffolk, within the hundred of Risbridge, is situated on the banks of the river Stour, which separates in its course for many miles the counties of Essex and Suffolk. The etymology of its name I cannot with any certainty discover—unless from the Latin *clarus*, or the French *clair*, as having respect to the beauty of its situation, or the clearness of the stream on which it stands, which, in times anterior to the Conquest, and even so lately as in the map of Suffolk, in one of the first editions of Camden, was called Clare Flumen; and what strengthens this idea is that an adjoining parish, on the Essex side of the river, has its name, Belchamp, from its fine situation. The word Clare is not to be found in any of the Anglo-Saxon dictionaries that I have been able to see; nor, indeed, can I make any other guess at its derivation.

There is on the north-east of the town, in a piece of pasture-land containing about sixty acres, which was granted by Queen Mary to the poor of the parish under certain regulations, the appearance remaining of an encampment or station, consisting of a double fosse and bank, which, from its shape and size, has been conjectured to be Roman, and there are some appearances of Roman brick intermixed with the stones with which the castle walls were built, but in a very inconsiderable quantity; nor, indeed, are there any considerable remains of the walls themselves. . . .

Although from its situation as a frontier this castle must have been of consequence during the Heptarchy, placed as it is on the extreme boundary of East Anglia, and on the verge of the kingdom of Eastsex, yet no notices have been found of sufficient historic proof to be inserted in this account. The first mention I find of sufficient authority to quote as fact is in Tanner's "Notitia Monastica," under

the article "Clare," where it is related that Earl Aluric, or Alfric, the son of Withgar, a nobleman who lived in the reign of Canute, founded the church of St. John the Baptist in the castle here, and therein placed seven secular canons. This account proves that the castle was in being about an hundred years after the reduction of the Heptarchy into one kingdom. In this family the castle may be supposed to have remained until the strong hand of conquest wrenched it from its old possessors; and William I. gave it, together with other large possessions, to his relation, and one of his principal followers, Richard Fitzgelbert, descended from the Earls of Briony in Normandy. His son, in the year 1090, gave the church and canons founded by Aluric to the monastery of Bec in Normandy, by which it became a cell of Benedictines belonging to that abbey, and remained within the castle of Clare till 1124, when Richard de Clare removed them to Stoke.

This family in process of time, after having intermarried with some of the principal nobility in the kingdom, and particularly twice with blood-royal, gave us a monarch in the person of Edward IV.; and by Richard de Clare the Monastery of Friars Hermits of the Order of St. Austin was founded in the year 1248. The friary was seated on the banks of the river Clare, about two or three hundred yards nearly south of the hill, on which are the remains of the keep of the castle; and adjoining to it Joan of Acre, daughter of Edward I., and wife of Gilbert, Earl of Clare and Gloucester, built and dedicated a chapel to the honour of St. Vincent, as appears in a rhythmical dialogue inserted in the "Monasticon," and in Weever's "Funeral Monuments," by which it also appears that this princess, Lionel, Duke of Clarence, Richard, Earl of Clare, the founder and other principal personages, were buried in this chapel; and Dugdale, in his "Baronage," says that Edward II. and most of the principal nobility of the kingdom attended here the funeral of that monarch's sister, who died at the castle. After the dissolution of monasteries the friary and its demesne lands lying in the adjoining parishes of Clare, Ashen and Belchamp St. Paul, being altogether about 120 acres, were granted in 31 Henry VIII. to Richard Friend, since when it passed into the families of Cocksall and Berker (who had married the two daughters and co-heiress of Friend), Barnardiston, Butler, Poulter; and now the estate belongs to Wm. Shrive, Esq.

Part of the friary appears, by the style of building, to have been fitted up as a mansion-house soon after its dissolution, and has continued to be inhabited ever since by the successive owners of the estate or their tenants. The walls and roof of the chapel remain tolerably entire, but there is not the least vestige of any monument or gravestone; indeed, if oral tradition had not fixed on this particular building as the chapel of Joan D'Acre, one would scarcely imagine that persons of such exalted rank should have chosen it for

their cemetery; and I believe Le Neve had the same idea, for in a sketch of the ruins of Clare, taken by him at the beginning of this century, he has marked this building as the dormitory; but that Lionel, Duke of Clarence, was buried in a private manner appears from the above-mentioned dialogue, which is held at the grave of Dame Joan of Acre in the year 1440:

> "King Edward the Third's son was he,
> Sir Lionel, which buried is hereby;
> And for such a prince too simpily——"

But whether in this place, which has for many years been used as a barn, appears to me doubtful. . . .

The site of the castle, together with its two bayleys, of which the inner bayley only appears ever to have been fortified with a wall, the outer bayley with a deep fosse and high bank, contains about twenty acres; the keep is on a hill near the south-west corner of the whole area, which is nearly a square. The only considerable remains of walls are a small segment of the circle of the keep, about feet high, battlemented at the top and strengthened on the outside with handsome buttresses faced with freestone and a wall running down the east side of the hill and connecting it with another elevation, together with some other ruinous fragments of walls. The whole site, each bayley, and also the hill, which is about 34 yards high, were separately defended by moats, which received their water from a stream that rises north of a hamlet belonging to Clare, called Chalton; there was a keeper and constable of the castle when guard was kept there, whose fee was £6 13s. 4d. The whole site was parcel of the possessions of the Crown, from the accession of Edward IV. till the year 1553, when Edward VI. granted it, together with other lands, to Sir John Cheke, which were resumed to the Crown by Queen Mary in the first year of her reign, and since that time it has been in the possession of the Barnardiston family, as it appears from Le Neve's papers that before the year 1655 Sir Thomas Barnardiston was owner of it, since when it has been many years in the possession of the family of Elwes, of Stoke College; and it now belongs to John Elwes, Esq., late knight of the shire for the county of Berks. The other remains of antiquity in this parish, together with some account of its natural produce, population, etc., must be deferred to another opportunity. R.

[1793, *Part I., pp.* 29, 30.]

I send you a small antiquarian supply for the *Gentleman's Magazine:*

1. An exact facsimile of a gold coin (Plate III., Fig. 2), the weight of it 101 grains; it was dug up in the year 1787, in a field called Mill Field, in the parish of Haverhill, near Clare, in this county, about half a mile north-east of the middle of the principal street; about

fifty were found together loose, but seem to have been wrapped up in something which was so decayed as not to be capable of being described; the labourers who found them sold them to a tradesman in Haverhill, who disposed of them all except this one, which Mr. King, the occupier of the farm where they were found, obtained from him; some of them, he informed me, were larger than this which was preserved; the labourers, I am told by the same authority, received forty guineas for them. I will venture no conjecture when or by whom the coins were struck, as I have no collection of coins, and but few books of information on the subject in my library. Possibly some correspondent can inform me.

2. You will also receive a copy of letters patent granted by Elizabeth de Burgh, widow of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and granddaughter of Gilbert de Clare, giving permission to sell or exchange a small piece of ground, situate in her market of Clare, with three persons who are called guardians of her chancery in Clare, the seal of the chancery being affixed to it; but, some part of the wax being broken, only the remains of the quarterings of the Clare family, viz., three chevronels, and the Earldom of Gloucester, a cross, can be made out; the impression in the middle compartment is very imperfect; possibly it may be the achievement of the Duke of Clarence, whose widow she was.

It exhibits a curious proof of the absurd affectation of royal prerogatives by the nobles of those times; all the parade of royal letters patent are made use of by a subject, high-born and highly connected, to give a tenant of her honour of Clare leave to exchange a place in the market, 16 feet long, and 11 feet wide, the rent of which is fourpence, with the guardians of her chancery as they are termed; for this purpose the first person plural is made use of; it is done in our castle of Clare, and the seal of our chancery is affixed. However, it proves to the antiquary that Clare possesses the grant of a market, which has been doubted; that its noble owner, as well as our gracious Sovereign, held a court of chancery, and also put the great seal into commission; that the court was held at Clare; and that, in 1347, the castle, which will soon cease to possess a vestige of its former consequence, was inhabited by Elizabeth de Burgh, dame de Clare.

"As tous ceux que ces lettres verront ou cuiront, Elizabeth de Burgh, dame de Clare, *salutz in semp.* Come William in le Halle tient de nous, par rotule de notre court, une place en notre marché de Clare, près de la mais en Walter Abory, que cont, en longeur seize pieds, et en largeur onze pieds, per le service de quater deniers *per ann.* pour tous services: sachez nous avez acordé, et de nostre grace especiale congé doner au dit William, que il puisse en feoffer et changer de meismes la place, William Sorrel, Johan de Peche, et William le Shepperde, gardeins de la chancerie de nostre dame en Clare, haver et tenir a eux et a leurs successeurs, gardeins de la

dite chancerie, de nous et de nous heires, per le service de les avant ditz quartre deniers a toutes temps. Et aussi nous avoins congé doné a les avantz detz William Sorrel, Johan de Peche, et William le Shepperde, gardeins de la dite chancerie nostre, qu'ils puissent purchaser la dite place, et ie dit William en a Halle, per exchange, tenir de nous et de nos heeres, en le forme surdite, sauns estre chalanger, ou endamage, eux ou leurs successurs, per nous, ou nous heires, per cause de purchase avante dite. En temoignage de quel chose, a ces lettres ouvertes, avons mis nostre seal. Doné en nostre chastel de Clare, le quinquieme jour de May, l'an du regne de nostre seynour le roy Edward tiers, apres le conquest vicessime" (see the seal, Plate III., Fig. 3).

Claydon.

[1840, *Part II., p.* 331.]

As to the origin of the name of "Mock Beggar," there are two instances in which that term is made use of, in both which it has been applied to an object bearing the external appearance of a hospitable mansion, and to which travellers are supposed to be drawn out of their road, only to meet, on their arrival, with the disappointment of finding an empty house, or no house at all. Both places bear the name of "Mock-Beggar's Hall." The one is an insulated rock near Bakewell, in Derbyshire; . . . the other is a Tudor or Elizabethan mansion in the parish of Claydon, in Suffolk, standing in a conspicuous situation, a little distance from the road leading from Ipswich to Scole, to which mendicants would naturally be attracted, in expectation of finding inhabitants, but which, tradition says, remained so long unoccupied as to be the cause of numerous disappointments to those travellers who had never been taken in before. The name, as applied to this old mansion, may possibly be only a popular corruption of a family or manorial designation, for in the same county I have known "Vis-de-lou's" corrupted to "Fiddler's" Hall; but I give the only origin which I have ever heard attributed to it. C.

Clopton.

[1829, *Part II., p.* 187.]

On August 1 the Rev. John Grove Spurgeon, Rector of Clopton and Oulton, and a magistrate for Suffolk, died at his residence in Lowestoft. His maternal grandfather lies buried in the church of Clopton, with the following quaint inscription to his memory:

"Chr. Grove, A.M. Aulæ Clari.
Principibus octo subjectus, Rector ubi olim Regibus Angliacis solvebat Ludrica Tellus de Carcere Simonis et Murus Saxeus adstat. Obt. 14 Jan., 1769."

An explanation from one of our Suffolk correspondents would be esteemed a favour. Mr. Grove was Rector of Hemingstone in that county.

[1832, *Part II., p.* 414.]

Christopher Grove, referred to in the foregoing inscription, was of Clare Hall, B.A. 1705, M.A. 1709. In 1718 or 1719 he was presented to the Rectory of Hemingstone, in Suffolk, of which he continued the incumbent till his death in 1769. Now, supposing him to have been twenty-one years of age when he took his first degree, he must have been born in 1684, and consequently lived during the reigns of, or was the subject of, eight Princes, viz., Charles II., James II., William, Mary, Anne, George I., George II. and George III.

Rector ubi olim, etc., viz., Hemingstone, where the manor was held of the King in serjeanty, by a ludicrous tenure; "p' quâ debuit Tenens facere die Natal. D'ni singulis annis coram D'no Rege unum saltum, et sifletum, et unum bumbulum."—"Testa de Nevill," p. 286. This was afterwards considered an indecent service, and was rated at 16s. 8d. the year. One Baldwin, who formerly held these lands, was known by the name of Baldwin le Pettour. (See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1827, Part I., p. 15.)

De Carcere Simonis.—This is obscure. Rowland le Sarcere held the lands here upon the above tenure (Blount's "Frag. Antiq."). Can the allusion be to this person?

Murus Saxeus.—In Hemingstone was formerly "an ancient building neere the spring head, which did of late belong to the family of Cantrell. The chiefe of that family were the Duke of Norfolk's gentlemen. Sir Ralphe Cantrell, Knt., the last of that family, sold it to Robert Shaw, gent., a merchant in Ipswich, whose sonne Robert is owner of it this year, 1655. There belongs to it an ancient tenement called Stone Hall, now com'only Stone Wall." The spot where the road from Henley to Gosbeck crosses that from Otley to Caddenham still goes by the name of Stone Walls, but there are no remains of ancient walls or buildings now in existence. This is in the parish of Hemingstone. D. A. Y.

Dennington.

[1835, *Part II., pp.* 261, 262.]

Dugdale, in his "Baronage," vol. ii., p. 213, states that William Phelip, whose monument is in Dennington Church, Suffolk, "was son to Sir John Phelip, of Donyngeton (Dennington) in com. Suffolk, knt., a valiant soldier under King Henry V. in his wars of France." Dr. Nash, in describing the monumental effigies at Kidderminster, of Matilda Lady Phelip, and her two husbands Walter Cooksey and Sir John Phelip, evidently considers the foregoing observations of Dugdale to be applicable to the last-mentioned party. Mr. Gough, in his "Sepulchral Monuments," follows Dr. Nash in this particular, but I suspect they were mistaken.

Sir John Phelip of Dennington, the valiant soldier alluded to by

Dugdale, had, besides Sir William, another son, Sir John, and I will suppose that he also, for his bravery, deserved the same epithet which has been applied to his father. It was this Sir John the younger who married the widow, Matilda Cooksey (formerly St. Pierre), and he had to his second wife Alicia Chaucer, who subsequently became the wife of William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, names quite familiar to those who have seen, or merely read of, the subjects of antiquarian interest at Ewelme, in Oxfordshire.

Quite in unison with this view of the case are the following observations of Hasted, extracted from his account of Deptford, or West Greenwich, in Kent: "In the 3rd year of Henry V., anno 1414" (say rather 1415), "it was found by Inquisition (Rot. Esch.) that Sir John Phelip, knight, and Alice his wife, held the reversion of this manor; and that Sir William Phelip, knight, was his brother and next heir.

"William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, at the time of his death, May 2, in the 28th year of King Henry VI., anno 1449, was seised of the manor of West Greenwich, leaving John, his son, seven years of age."

I will add, in confimation of the above, that the will of the last-mentioned Sir John Phelip, partly in Latin and partly in French, was made at his house in London, June 20, 1415, and was proved in the Prerogative Court, but not until 1418. In it are respectively named his late wife Matilda, the three children of the late Walter Cooksey; his (testator's) brother, Sir William Phelip; the Manor of West Greenwich; his (testator's) wife, Alicia; the celebrated Sir Thomas Erpingham; Andrew Botiller, testator's brother-in-law; several of the Bresynghams, etc.

It appears, upon reference to the second volume of Blomefield's "Norfolk," that Sir Thomas Erpingham, who survived until 1428, married to his second wife, Joan, the beautiful daughter of Sir William Clopton, of Clopton in Suffolk, in right of whom Sir Thomas came into that estate, and by whom he had an only daughter, Julian, who became the wife of Sir John Phelip; that Sir John and his wife Julian died in the lifetime of Sir Thomas, and that the heir of the latter was "Sir William Phelip, knight, who married Joan, daughter and coheir of Thomas Lord Bardolf." At a few pages further on, however, this Julian is called the daughter and heiress not of Sir Thomas Erpingham, but of Sir William Clopton; and I suspect that Blomefield had not derived accurate information as to the connection between the Erpinghams and Phelips; for the expressions "avunculus" and "mon oncle" are made use of by Sir John Phelip in his said will in reference to Sir Thomas Erpingham.

J. B. G.

Dunwich and Pulton.

[1792, *Part II.*, *p.* 1177.]

Fig. 2.—On the accompanying Plate II. is a seal found in 1790 in the sand on the seashore at Dunwich.

Fig. 3 is a seal appendant to a charter of Johanno de Stutril to Robert, son of Robert Sanva, of lands in Pulton, co. Suffolk, temp. Edward I., but undated. M.

[1806, *Part I.*, *p.* 217.]

I enclose you the drawings of some antiquities originally the property of Mr. Thomas Gardner, of Southwold.

Fig. 14 is an ancient brass seal found in or near Dunwich. The device is an angel holding something in the right hand; some appearance of the left may be seen hanging down. The inscription I read thus: "S. ROGERI ANGELI." I am not, however, clearly satisfied as to the meaning of the latter word, and would be much obliged to any correspondent who would explain it.

Fig. 15 is an ancient brass key found within the vicinity of Dunwich. When in a perfect state, it had double wards; one only now remains. A key of a similar make, but much larger, may be seen in Gardner's "Dunwich," Plate IV., p. 96.

Fig. 16 is a brass ring found also near the above place, with R crowned. Mr. Gardner has given us one somewhat like it.

Fig. 17 is a plain ring, found in Suffolk in 1805. The motto: THE NAZAREN. W.

East Bergholt.

[1794, *Part II.*, *pp.* 908, 909.]

In the village of East Bergholt there are many handsome gentlemen's houses. The rector's house (built by one of the Hankeys, who had very considerable property in this part of the world till the late Thomas Hankey, Esq., the banker, converted all his houses and acres into guineas for his business) is pleasantly and conspicuously situated on the top of a hill at some distance from the church; which has much engaged my attention, and awakened my curiosity, from the extraordinary circumstance of the bells being enclosed in a large wooden cage on the ground, very much resembling a house of correction; and, upon inquiring of the inhabitants, I cannot learn the cause of their parish church bells being thus disgraced and imprisoned . . . My landlord tells me that the bells were sentenced to suffer their present punishment from having been rung on the Pretender's birthday; but I do not find that he has any authority for this assertion. I hope that your next month's miscellany will give the true reason of the handsome church of this place being thus disfigured. A CONSTANT TRAVELLER.

Edwardstone.

[1785, *Part II., p.* 874.]

The impression on the seal (Plate I., Fig. 5) is to be read: "Sigillum Beate Marie de Stowesridward." Qu. Stowe Sci Edwarddi, or Edward Stow, in Babergh hundred, Suffolk, whose church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary? It was a village of note formerly for its lords who inhabited it, of whom see Kirby's "Suffolk Traveller," p. 259. D. H.

Eye.

[1807, *Part II., p.* 915.]

On the south porch of the Church of Eye, in Suffolk, are these arms cut in stone: Quarterly, 1st and 4th, a fess between three leopards' faces; 2nd and 3rd, a lion rampart double queued; in a compartment on one side is a stag springing, and on the other the lion, as in the arms, something in the manner of supporters. The same arms occur on the south side near the top of the tower, which is very handsome. The south, or, as it is called, the "Abbey aisle" (being kept in repair by the proprietor of the adjoining priory), has four bricks set in the parapet, two containing each a porcupine surmounted by a ducal coronet; the other two, a lion's head erased, ducally crowned.

In the chancel is the following inscription on an altar-tomb of green stone:

"Hic Nicholaus inest, fama Cutlerius avita;
Hic etiam conjux Eleonora jacet:
Mimmeæ stirpis fuit hæc prostrema propago,
Ille fuit patriæ gloria summa suæ.
Jamque senex binos gnatos gnatasque reliquit,
Unde socer clarus, clarus avusque fuit:
E quibus en Charolus, patrii studiosus honoris,
Ad patris erexit hæc monumenta decus.
Homo humana humo; virtus post funera.

Nicholaus obiit 19 die Decembris Anno D'ni 1568.

Eliz. obiit 12 die Januarii, Anno D'ni 1549."

Over the tomb are the following arms, painted on the wall: Quarterly: 1. Argent, 3 griffins' heads erased vert; 2. A. 3 tridents sable, 2 and 1; 3. G. on a chevron between three fleur-de-lis argent, 3 chess-rooks sable; 4. as first. Impaled with: 1. A. 2 chevrons sa. within a border engrailed g.; 2. A. a cross between 4 escallops sable; 3. Paly of 6, argent and sable; 4. G. on a chevron a. 3 dolphins naiant vert. Crest: A griffin's head erased vert, ducally gorged gules.

In the south aisle is a monument built exactly like the foregoing, with this inscription :

"Gul. ob. II. die Novembris, Anno D'ni 1569. Fran. obiit die V. Anno D'ni . . . ."

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

In the south porch, on the west side, is the following inscription above the crest of Cutler :

"1601. Henricus Cutler Stal—— dedit hanc trapeziam—stat——"

[The rest obliterated.]

The enclosed drawing of an old brass seal (see Fig. 9), found by a man ploughing in a field at Debenham, in Suffolk, now in the possession of Mr. Edward Dove, of that place, I send for your next miscellaneous plate. W. S. B.

[1813, *Part I., p.* 112.]

The following inscription is on a stone in the floor of the chancel of the church of Eye in Suffolk :

"Exiit ultimus Baronu' de Harrowden
✠ Henricus Vaux ✠
Septemb. 20. Anno D'ni MDCLXIII."
✠

Arms above : Vaux, checquy, on a chevron, 3 cinquefoils.

Crest : Out of a baronet's coronet, a griffin's head erased.

Motto : "Hodie, et non cras."

Who was the above-mentioned Lord Vaux ? and what relation was he to Edward, Lord Vaux, of Harrowden, who, according to the extinct peerages, died without lawful issue 1661, when the title has been supposed to cease ? An account of any part of the Vaux family will be acceptable. D. A. Y.

[1813, *Part I., p.* 524.]

The enclosed print of an antique inscription engraved on stone, taken out of the ruins of a chapel near Eye in Suffolk (see Fig. 4), is from a plate which came with a few others some time since into my possession. J. M. FLINDALL.

Felixstow.

[1816, *Part II., p.* 105.]

I send you an etching designed by Gainsborough, one of the earliest, I believe, of the excellent painter's productions, of Felixstow Cottage, which I request you to copy into your magazine (see the Plate) as an illustration of the very entertaining account of the family of Thicknesse, given by Mr. Nichols in vol. ix., pp. 251-288.

Felixstow Cottage, distant 3 miles from Landguard Fort, was originally merely a fisherman's hut, converted by the taste of

Governor Thicknesse, and afterwards embellished by the pencil of his wife, into a charming little residence, where he employed himself with rural sports and literary amusements.

On resigning the governorship of Landguard Fort, Mr. Thicknesse sold Felixstow Cottage to Lady Dowager Bateman for £400 (about half the money which he had expended upon it), and it is now in the possession of Sir Samuel Fludyer, Bart. SUFFOLCIENSIS.

Fornham St. Genevieve.

[1827, *Part I., p.* 639.]

A curious discovery was made a few days ago at Fornham Saint Genevieve, near Bury. Men had been for some days employed in felling a pollard ash near the church, which had the appearance of great antiquity, being not less than 18 feet in girth and very much decayed; and standing upon a small hillock, which seemed to have been left at a very distant period, when the rest of the soil around it had been lowered. On the fall of the tree the roots, which were of unusual size and length, tore up the ground to a considerable extent, when immediately under the trunk were discovered a large quantity of skeletons, or rather fragments of skeletons, all lying in a circle, with the heads inwards, and piled tier above tier, from the depth of about 4 feet, being probably the remains of several hundred bodies. The most perfect of the bones was a lower jaw of large dimensions, containing the whole of the teeth; all the rest were very much decayed. It is well known, both from history and the tradition of names, that in the reign of Henry II., A.D. 1173, this village was the scene of a sanguinary and decisive battle. According to Hovenden, the Earl of Leicester, having made a descent upon Suffolk, at the head of a great body of Flemings, to support the claim of the king's undutiful son to his father's dominions, and having been joined by Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, who put the Castle of Framlingham into his hands, was encountered here by Richard de Lucy, the guardian of the realm in the king's absence, with a less numerous but braver army; and the Flemings, being mostly weavers and other tradesmen, were broken in an instant, 10,000 of them put to the sword, and the rest were glad to compound for a safe retreat into their own country. It is therefore probable that these were the slain of the victorious party from the careful yet singular manner in which the bodies were deposited; and that after the earth was heaped over them the ash was planted to mark the spot. If this supposition be correct, it affords a striking instance of the longevity of trees. Single bodies, bones and remnants of arms and armour have been not unfrequently found in the same neighbourhood; but it is rather remarkable that on the present occasion no warlike implements were discovered.

Framlingham.

1804, *Part I., p.* 39.]

I was lately at Framlingham, a market town in Suffolk, and have taken the liberty of sending you the following account of its church and monuments.

Framlingham Church is a spacious structure dedicated to St. Michael, supposed to have been built by the Mowbrays, Earls of Norfolk, having a square tower at the west end said to be 100 feet in height. The interior is well paved and pewed, and contains a good organ.

At the eastern end of the north aisle are several handsome monuments to the Norfolk family in a good state of repair. Thomas Howard, the third Duke of Norfolk, has one with this inscription in his collar of S.S.: "Gratia Dei sum quod sum." He died in 1554.

There is another for Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond and Somerset (natural son of Henry VIII.), married to Lady Mary, daughter of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk. Died in 1536.

There is a third for Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, and Francis his wife (a daughter of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford), who was beheaded January 19, 1546.

Sir Robert Kitchin, Knight, Attorney-General in the reign of King Charles I., died August 15, 1636, aged 64, and lies buried on the south side of the altar, under a handsome tomb, on which is inscribed the following epitaph:

> "The children not yet borne with gladness shall
> Thy pious actions into memorye call;
> And thou shalt live as longe as there shall bee
> Either poore, or any use of charitie.
> "Fr. Griggs fecit 1638."

Sir Robert founded an almshouse for twelve aged persons, and a free school for teaching forty poor children in this town.

Immediately over the door on entering the church at the south-east is a neat mural monument by the celebrated Roubiliac to the memory of Mrs. Jane Kerridge, of Shelley Hall, who died September 5, 1744.

Framlingham is a rectory valued in the King's Books at £43 6s. 8d. It is consolidated with Saxtead, both being in the gift of the Master and Fellows of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. The Rev. William Wyatt is the present incumbent.

There are very considerable remains of a castle standing at Framlingham, built, it is supposed, by some of the kings of the East Angles, but now, alas, used as a workhouse for the poor of the town.

D.

[1828, *Part I., p.* 17.]

I send you a rough sketch of a carving on wood (Plate II., Fig. 1) now remaining in a house in Framlingham, in Suffolk. It was probably brought from the castle, and the arms, which are coloured as well as carved, are, as far as I can make out, Brotherton and Warren, impaling Mowbray of four coats: 1. Gules, a lion rampant argent, Mowbray. 2. Gules, a lion rampant or, Fitzalan. 3. Gules, two lions passant in pale argent, Strange. 4. Gules, a bendlet sable, between 6 martlets or, Furnival. The dexter supporter is a lion proper; the sinister, a Talbot argent, eared, muzzled, and collared sable.

Upon the same paper is also an outline (Fig. 2) of an iron key, found some years ago at Framlingham; it weighs rather more than than three-quarters of a pound. The ducal coronet at top seems to point it out as having been the property of some of the noble possessors of the castle; and the appearance, which is that of considerable antiquity, might lead us to suppose it to have been the key of some important part of the castle during the time of the Mowbrays. The pipe is square; the pin therefore which fitted it must have been movable—a plan which has been thought of modern invention, though that is disproved by the present specimen. D. A. Y.

[1841, *Part II., p.* 358.]

In your Magazine for 1828, Part I., p. 17, your correspondent D. A. Y. has given an account, accompanied by a sketch, of an ancient wood carving of a coat of arms now remaining in a house at Framlingham, in Suffolk, and invites inquiry as to the appropriation of the arms My attention having been lately led to this coat, I am inclined to hazard a conjecture that it contains the arms used by John Mowbray, the last Duke of Norfolk of that name, who married Elizabeth, a daughter of the famous John Talbot, the first Earl of Shrewsbury. The arms on the dexter side of the shield are without doubt, as suggested by D. A. Y., Brotherton in chief and Warren in base. The former he was entitled to bear in virtue of his royal descent from Thomas de Brotherton, and are therefore placed in the most honourable quarter; the latter, probably, in evidence of his title of Earl of Warren and Surrey, which was conferred upon him in his father's lifetime. . . . A Gleaner.

[1830, *Part I., p.* 306.]

Fig. 5 on the accompanying Plate II. is the impression of a brass seal which was dug up a few years ago near Framlingham. It was supposed by our correspondent D. A. Y. to represent the gateway of Framlingham Castle, and the initials W. b. may mean William

Brekeston, who was Wardrobe Keeper 1 Edward III. The letter S within the doorway perhaps stands for Seneschallus.

[1841, *Part II.*, *p.* 20.]

G. R. N. extracts from Green's "History of Framlingham" an entry appearing in the Churchwardens' Accounts of that parish for the year 1661:

		£ s. d.
1661. May 3.	To Mr. Hugh Ludson for the King's Arms	8 10 0
— —	Lost by Mr. Ireland for a citation .	4 4

to which latter item is added in the handwriting of the Rev. Richard Golty, the then rector, "sent for and served on him for refusing to pay for his part for the King's Arms."

Freckenham.

[1777, *p.* 416.]

A workman employed in repairing and whitewashing the Church of Frecknam, in the county of Suffolk, in the spring of the last year (1776), struck down with his hammer a piece of alabaster; it was fixed in the inside of the church, in the wall, near the north door of the nave. It appeared then a plain stone, about 15 inches long and 12 inches broad, but on its falling down, the other side was discovered to be carved in relievo and painted. The carving represents a bishop, or some mitred personage, *in pontificalibus*, holding in his left hand the whole leg and haunch of a horse, recently torn off, and striking the hoof with a hammer which he holds in his right hand. Near him is the horse in a rack, standing on three legs, having the shoulder whence the other was torn off, bloody. He is held by a person with a round cap on, not unlike a Scotch bonnet. The legs of this person appear under the horse, having on long picked shoes. In the background there is a furnace, and round it, in various parts, horseshoes and other implements belonging to a smith.

The carving is now in the possession of the Rector of Frecknam. It seems worthy the attention of your antiquary readers: and an explanation of the legend by your learned correspondents G. R. or T. Row would greatly oblige your constant reader, T. M.

[1824, *Part II.*, *p.* 129.]

[The carving alluded to in the last extract] represents the figure of a bishop *in pontificalibus*, holding in his left hand the leg of a horse, which has been recently torn off; and in the act of striking the hoof with a hammer, which he holds in his left hand. Near him stands the horse by a rack on three legs, having the shoulder from whence

the other was torn off, bloody. In the background is a forge, and round it, in different parts, horseshoes and other implements belonging to a farrier. It is well carved in relievo, and coloured. . . .

I have no doubt but that the figure in question was designed as a representation of St. Alo; and I am confirmed in this opinion by a late perusal of Mrs. Graham's interesting account of her "Three Months' Residence in the Mountains East of Rome," in which that lively and entertaining writer says, at p. 239: "St. Alo, when applied to to shoe a horse (for the saint was a blacksmith), used to take off the beast's foot, and carry it into the smithy, where he shod it neatly; and then, carrying it to its owner, joined it to the leg by the sign of the Cross and a prayer." J. F.

Hadleigh.*

[1861, *Part I., pp.* 150-153.]

In the sixteenth century, when the trade of Hadleigh was flourishing, efforts appear to have been made to obtain a charter of incorporation, for this item occurs in one of the old parish books in the year 1571: "Payd to John Smythe for that he hath layd out about the Charter iiij*l.*" And again in the year 1586 there is the following entry: "M^m^ that there resteth in the hands of W^m^ Forth, gent. x^li^, w^ch^ is dew to the towne, and is parte of that money w^ch^ was gathered for this Charter."

These efforts were all in vain, but a renewed application was more successful in 1618, when James I. gratified the inhabitants by conferring the charter which they had so long desired, together with the grant of arms, a copy of which, with the autograph of Camden, then Clarenceux, we lay before our readers.

The charter continued in force till the year 1687, when it was surrendered on a writ of *quo warranto*, the Government of the day being excited to action not only by the general desire to secure the surrender of charters into their hands in order that they might reissue them with provisions more favourable to the Crown, but also by the representations of some of the inhabitants that the Corporation had been guilty of applying to their own purposes funds which were originally left for the support of religious and charitable objects.

Various attempts were subsequently made to obtain a new charter, but after considerable expenses had been incurred without avail, the design was finally abandoned in 1707-8.

The first Mayor was John Gaell, a member of a respectable family, which left several benefactions to its native town, but which is now extinct in Hadleigh. He died in March, 1641-42, and his monument surmounted by his arms—on a fesse, between three saltires, three lions' heads erased—still remains on the south pier of the chancel-

* For a review of Pigot's "History of Hadleigh," see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1860, Part II., pp. 135-138.

arch of Hadleigh Church. The inscription tells us nearly all that is known about him :

"Siste, viator, ubi æternum sistes, Dumqꝫ hujus mortem deploras, expecta tuam. Ivit hic sub umbras Johannes Gaell Gen^{s} primus hujus Burgi Prætor Quo quidem munere denuo functus est. Vir integritate morum simplex, Animi prudentia insignis, Vitæ moderatione compositus, Hospitalitate, Comitate, æquitate instructissimus, Amicis prima spes, ultimus dolor. Tres amantissimas fœminas conjugio duxit, Rosam Radulphi Hayward Filiam (quam ex Susanna Overall Episcopi Norvicensis sorore suscepit) Saram et Margaretam. Ex prima numerosam suscepit sobolem, viz., Septem filios, Edvardum, Gulielmum, Gulielmum tenella ætate defunctos, Johannem nuper Socium Aulæ Pemb. Cantab, Edvardum ter itidem Hadleii Prætorem, Georgium Procuratorem de Arcubus, Thomam, & duas Filias Juditham Roberto Ayleff LL Do'ori et Mariam Gulielmo Appleton, gen. nupt: Sed ex alteris nullam. Abi, Viator, et disce mori. Monumentum hoc Patris Carissimi Filius Georgius M. S. P. C."

The grant of arms is surrounded on three sides by a floriated border. In the centre are the arms of James I., viz., Quarterly, 1st and 4th France and England quarterly; 2nd, Scotland; 3rd, Ireland; an imperial crown surmounting the shield; on the dexter side is a shield charged with Argent, a cross gules impaling the Royal Arms, and on the sinister the same arms impaling Denmark.

Immediately under the arms of Hadleigh, which are emblazoned on the dexter side of the grant, is a shield with these arms—Argent, a cross gules impaling Azure, a saltire argent; and on the other side are the Royal Arms, with a label of three points.

The seal, which is now lost, was appended by blue and yellow ribands, being the colours of the field and principal charge of the arms of Hadleigh.

"To all and singuler aswell Nobles as Gentles and others, to whome theise presents shall come, I, William Cambden, Esquire, alias Clarenceux King of Armes of the South East and West partes of this Realme of England, from the River of Trent Southward, doe send greeting in our lord God everlasting. By the constituc'ons of our prudent Progenitors the bearing of Signes in Sheildes comonly called Armes hath bene devised and assigned to private men of worth and good desert for seruice to their Prince and Country in warre or peace as demonstrac'ons of their vertues and rewardes of the same. Soe alsoe such like signes, monuments and Armes have ben appropriated in like respect to Citties, Burroughes, Corporac'ons, Cominalties and Societies of this Realme vnited by authoritie of Princes for conseruac'on of themselves as well in peace as warre, supporting and aduancing vertue and honestie, repressing vice and wickednes by lawe, order and government. And whereas the Kinges maiestie our dread Soveraigne lord James, by the grace of god King of England &c., by his Letters patents vnder his greate Seale of England, bearing date at Westminster the two and twentith day of November, in the Sixteenth yeare of his Raigne of England,

ffrance, and Ireland, and the two and ffiftith of Scotland, hath recited that the Towne of Hadleigh in the Countie of Suffolke is an auncient and populous Towne, and the Inhabitants thereof of long tyme have laudablie used and exercised the facultie of making of wollen cloth to the great releife of the poore Inhabitantes of the said Towne and of other Townes there neere adioyning, And graciouslie affecting the bettering and publike good of the said Towne, did by the said Letters pattents graunte that the said Towne, and a certaine streete called Woodkekstreete lying in or neere Hadleigh aforesaid, within the fee and precinct of the mannor of Hadleigh, shalbe and remaine for ever a free Burrough and Towne. And that the Inhabitantes of the said Burroughe or Towne and Streete, without any question bee and shalbe one body corporate and politique in deede, fact and name, by the name of maior, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Hadleigh in the Countie of Suffolke. And them by the name of maior, Aldermen and Burgesses of Hadleigh in the Countie of Suffolke, one bodie corporate in deede, fact and name, reallie and fullie did make, ordeyne, constitute, create, confirme, ratifie, and declare by the same Letters patents. And that they by the same name of maior, Aldermen and Burgesses of Hadleigh in the Countie of Suffolke shall have perpetuall Succession, and be persons perpetuallie able and in lawe capable to have, receive and enioye landes, tenements, liberties, priuiledges, iurisdic'ons and ymunities of what kind soever. AND in his said letters pattents did graunte That there should be for ever within the said Towne, A maior, eight Aldermen and sixteen cheife Burgesses. And did nominate and assigne John Gaell, gent, to be first maior of the said Burrough, and the said John Gaell and John Alabaster, John Britten, Robert Strutt, Phillipp Eldred, Robert Reason, Richard Glamfeilde, and John Whiting, gent, the first Eight Aldermen of the said Burrough, and Andrew ffuller, John Blewett, William Richardson, Thomas Britten, Edward Beamont, Thomas Blewett, Robert Holgrave, Robert Norris, Thomas Smith, Thomas Sympson, Thomas Colman, John Beamont, Thomas Humfrey, John Gresby, Thomas Cole, and John Smith the first sixteene cheife Burgesses of the said Burroughe, and Thomas Locke, Esquier, Recorder, and ffrancis Andrewe, gent, Towneclarke of the said Burroughe. AND FURTHER graunted, That the said maior, Aldermen and Burgesses of Hadleigh aforesaid, and their Successors, may have for ever a comon Seale to serve for the doing of their causes and busines, and may at their pleasure breake and change the same and make a newe. ffor the which their Seale, whereas they have required me to assigne and appropriate to them peculier armes, I have assigned these, videlt., The ffeild Azure a chevorn erminois betweene three woolsackes argent, and to the Crest or Cognizant on a Helme a wreth of his cullors, Or and Azure a mount vert, thereon a lambe standing argent, holding a banner Azure with a woolsacke

argent, the staffe Or mantelled argent, doubled gules, tasselled Or, as more plainelie appeareth depictured in the margent. THE WHICH armes I assigne give and graunte unto the said Burrough or Towne and Corporac'on, and to the said maior, Aldermen and Burgesses of the said Burroughe or Towne of Hadleigh and their Successors by theise presents p'petuallie to be borne.

"IN WITNES whereof, I, the said King of Armes, have hereunto sett my hand and Seale of Office the Eighteenth day of ffebruary, in the sixteenth yeare of the Raigne of our Soveraigne lord James of great Britayne, ffraunce and Ireland, Defender of the faith, &c., Anno Dni. 1618.

"WILLM. CAMDEN, Clarenceux
"King of Armes."

Hasketon.

[1795, *Part II.*, *p.* 1089.]

In the parish church of Hasketon, in the county of Suffolk, there is yet extant a very ancient and ruinous vault, under which is supposed to be deposited the reliques of Mr. John Bull, a celebrated champion in the year 1640, and many years an opulent inhabitant of the same parish. It is related that there were enclosed within his coffin twelve swords, and as many scabbards, with this motto, "Nunc quies. Duodecim mihi gladii, et duodecim mihi vaginæ."

S. T. D.

Henley.

[1793, *Part I.*, *p.* 322.]

Having had occasion to consult some old registers belonging to the parish of Henley, near Ipswich, in Suffolk, I met with the following singular entry:

"Prince Charles was born on Monday, May 29, 1630, at which time a star appeared at midday; and Mr. Daniel Heron, Vicar of Henley, in suffolk, preached then at St. Paul's on these words (Judges xiv. 18): 'If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not made out my riddle.' King Charles, the father, went to hear the sermon, and to return thanks for his son's birth. After sermon, Serjeant Horkins sent the preacher these verses:

"'Dum Rex Paulinas accessit gratus ad aras
Emicuit medio lucida stella die.
Dic mihi divina enarrans ænigmata, præco,
Hæc oriens urbis quid sibi stella velit."

"M. Heron's answer was:

"'Magnus in occiduo princeps modo nascitur orbe,
Crasque sub Eclipsin Regna Orientis erunt.'"

K.

Herringfleet.

[1811, *Part II., pp.* 213, 214.]

The following historic description of St. Olave's Bridge over the Waveney at Herringfleet, in Suffolk, is extracted from a MS. in my possession. It was drawn up about the year 1706, by the late Bishop Tanner, author of that celebrated work the "Notitia Monastica."

Some Account of St. Olave's Bridge.

"King Edward the First in the 25th year of his reign, which was in the year of our Lord 1296, sent out a writ to William de Kerdeston, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, to inquire what detriment it would be to any person, for him to grant leave to Jeffery Pollerin of Yarmouth, to build a bridge over the river at Saint Olave's Priory;* and a jury being empannelled, &c., returned, that one Sireck, a fisherman, called afterwards John Atte Ferry's, began several years before to carry over passengers in his boat there, and received for his pains, bread, herrings, and such like things, to the value of 20 shillings per year; after his death William his son did the like, and made it worth 30 shillings per year; after him Ralph his son did the like; and had of his neighbours, bread and corn; and of strangers, money; and because the Prior of Toft† hindered passengers from going through his marsh, the said Ralph purchased a passage‡ through the Prior's marsh, with a fleet on each side, paying 12 shillings per year; and of the Commoners of Herringfleet, he purchased a way through their Common, and was to carry them over at all times free for it, and then it became worth £10 per year; after Ralph's decease, John his brother had it, and it was valued at £12 per year; John sold it to Roger de Ludham,§ who then held it —so that the building of a bridge there would be to the detriment of Roger de Ludham and the Prior of Toft; but it would be to the great benefit of the country—whereupon leave was given, and a bridge began, at least as it is supposed; but perhaps not finished in a durable manner: for among the patents of the 9th of Henry V. one is for building a bridge over the water, between Norfolk and Suffolk, at 'Seent Tholowes (St. Olave's) Ferry.' What was then done does not appear, but probably not much, for in King

* For an account of the foundation, etc., of this Priory, vide *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1805, Part II., p. 793, note.

† Toftes Monachorum—an alien priory belonging to the Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul de Pratellis in Normandy. The revenues of this house were given by Edward IV. to King's College, Cambridge.—Tanner.

‡ This passage is about a quarter of a mile long, and I believe still used by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

§ The Ludhams were originally of Ludham, in Suffolk, where they had a family seat, and whence probably they took the name. John de Ludham was living 1280. They bore Argent, 3 escutcheons sable.

Henry VIII.'s reign it is generally believed that Sir James Hobart built the present (1706) bridge, or put it into the present form. The following inscription is under a very curious old painting in the Church of Loddon:

"Orate pro animâ Jacobi Hobart Militis Aurati, qui ecclesiam hanc parochialem de Loddon, à primo fundamento condidit in tribus annis cum suis propriis, anno undecimo regis Henrici Septimi.——Orate pro animâ Domine Hobart, Uxoris Jacob. predicti, que pontem Sti Olavi una cum viâ stratâ ad eam ducente propriis suis impensis, boni publici ergo, &c."

W. A.

Hoxne.

[1835, *Part I., p.* 420.]

On clearing the walls of the church at Hoxne, near Eye, in Suffolk, several paintings, partially obliterated, have recently been discovered. One, representing David on the field of battle with Goliath; the next is supposed to be Paul confined in the stocks; there is also the Crucifixion and the Resurrection of the Dead, etc. They are about 10 feet high and 12 feet wide. There are several perfect inscriptions, of which we hope hereafter to procure copies; but they have not hitherto been seen by any person able to read them, although quite perfect. We understand a similar discovery has also been lately made at Dartford; and we shall look forward to receive further particulars of both by the kindness of some volunteer correspondent.

[1848, *Part II., pp.* 469-471.]

There is a paragraph running the round of the papers, headed "Fall of St. Edmund's Oak," to the effect that "the Great Oak in Hoxne Wood," Suffolk, "which has, by long tradition, been pointed out as the veritable tree" at which St. Edmund was shot by the Danes, has lately "fallen to the ground." After stating the magnitude of the tree, in which there is nothing remarkable, we are told that a certain Mr. Smythies, the agent of Sir Edward Kerrison, "found, within side the trunk, an iron point, presumed to have been an arrow-head, a foot deep within the substance of the wood, and about 5 feet above the ground—a discovery which is regarded as verifying the identity of the oak, as connected with the monarch's death."

Now, it happens that some fifty years ago or more I was well acquainted with every inch of this locality, and with the whole swarm of traditions which attach themselves in such rich abundance to every spot in the village. This enables me to assert that there is not, in fact, any place called "Hoxne Wood." Moreover, I state very confidently that, at the time to which I refer, no oak was, traditionally or otherwise, designated as "St. Edmund's Oak." The

site of the Priory, erected afterwards on the spot of the martyr's interment, is marked by some small remains of the fabric; but one of the Greshams, to whom it was granted, left very little for the antiquary to speculate on; and it soon passed into the hands of a very ancient family, who left their mansion in another part of the village, and fixed their residence within the monastic precinct. This was the family of Thruston, who dwelt there during several generations, and one of whom, Nathaniel Thruston, Esq., was a distinguished scholar, and an antiquary of considerable repute.

Observe, sir, that I do not by any means deny the possibility of the "iron point" found in the tree having been a Danish arrow-head, for we really know but little about the continuance of vegetable life. Fairlop Oak in Hainault Forest, which bore acorns but a very few years ago, is known to have been visited on account of its magnitude in the reign of Richard II. But when I consider that Edmund was slain in 870, and that the Danes are not likely to have bound him to the smallest tree of the forest, it really requires the bump of credulity to be very largely developed in a man who finds in an oak an "iron point," and believes, and wishes others to believe, that it has been almost 800 years in the tree, which tree has been growing on the spot, say 1,200 years!

Meanwhile, the evidence is tolerably conclusive that this atrocious murder was perpetrated in the immediate vicinity. The few ruins of the Priory bear testimony to this fact; and in a field, a short distance to the north, is a small spot encompassed by a deep moat, which is pointed out by tradition immemorial, as the *locus sacer*—the holy spot, where the miracle of the wolf and the sacred head was said by the monks to have occurred. This spot may be seen still, I presume; and it really seems difficult to assign a better reason than the tradition assigns, for enclosing so small a space within a deep and wide moat.

Still further to the north, when I knew the place, in the midst of a field, stood an oak, the largest, I believe, within some considerable distance; and I conjecture that this must be the very tree in question. This remarkable tree, however, was then known by the name of Belmore's Oak, and the enclosure was called from it Belmore's Oak field; nor did I ever hear it mentioned in connection with St. Edmund. Certainly if I could believe that Belmore's Oak was standing, and a tree of good magnitude, A.D. 700, I might be half tempted—possessed as I am of a pretty good antiquarian swallow—to believe that, from its contiguity to the Priory, and to the *locus* aforesaid, it had a very fair claim to the distinction now asserted for it. And perhaps I might regard this claim as corroborated by the fact that, on the very margin of "Belmore's Oak field," there is a spot called Deadman's Gap, *i.e.*, Edmund's Gap, pointed out by tradition as the identical place where the royal martyr was first seized

by his pagan foes, when he had made his escape from beneath the bridge, according to the well-known legend.

I would take this occasion of inviting the attention of your antiquarian readers to four rudely carved figures of wood, still preserved in the farmhouse, formerly the seat of the Thruston family, within the precinct of the Priory. They consist of two males and two females; and when I last saw them were in good preservation, though their material is oak. The male figures are usually designated as Samson and Hercules; for the females I have not heard any names. I forget the symbols, but one of them is clad in a lion's skin, and holds a small globe against his breast in his left hand, and a pair of compasses in his right applied to the globe. In the time when this estate was possessed by Charles Viscount Maynard, a question was raised among some of his lordship's guests at dinner at the hall respecting these figures. One of the said guests was honest Tom Martin, the antiquary, who ridiculed a suggestion that they were Danish idols. However, he seems afterwards to have in some degree, at least, entertained this opinion; and Thomas Maynard, Esq., his lordship's successor, showed me, and permitted me to copy, a note from Mr. Martin to Lord Maynard on the subject:

"Palgrave, May 17, 1770.

"My good Lord,

"With many thanks for your good cheer on Thursday, I have to apologize for the way in which I spoke about the Danish idols. On coming home, I found up a paper by Mr. Nathanael Thruston, in which he mentions them, and says that he finds them to have come out of the old priory, and that he thinks they may be Danish. Consequently I have been to look at them again, not having seen them for many years. Mr. Thruston was no bad authority in such matters; but I confess I do not know what to make of them. Certainly they are not Samson and Hercules, and their wives, as is commonly said, though there may be indications which may have led to such a conclusion. I called going and returning, but was not so fortunate as to find you at home.

"I am, my lord,

"Your l'ship's obedt. servt.

"T. Martin."

Now, in the library at Hoxne Hall was a drawer nearly full of papers, many of them originals, and the rest chiefly in Mr. Martin's peculiar hand, given by him to Lord Maynard, and relating to the antiquities and traditions of Hoxne. It may be that they are still in the same library, and possibly Mr. Thruston's paper before mentioned may be among them, or, at any rate, a copy of it. The old library may still be there, although Sir E. Kerrison, having founded a new

family, has built a new house, and with a new name, yet it is still on the site of the palace of the ancient Bishops of Dunwich, and the worthy baronet may boast of dwelling in probably the most ancient residence in Europe, the existence of which can be traced authentically for a thousand years. As an antiquary, however, I wish he had not changed the name, for surely Hoxne Palace or Hoxne Hall sounds quite as well as Oakley Park. T.

Ipswich.

[1796, *Part II., p.* 913.]

The enclosed drawing (Plate II.) represents the carving in wood on the chimneypiece in the great parlour of the Tankard alehouse in St. Stephen's parish at Ipswich, formerly the mansion of Sir Anthony Wingfield, K.G., Privy Counsellor, and one of the executors to King Henry VIII. Part of the building has served as a playhouse, and the family chapel opposite thereto is succeeded by Dr. Gwynne's house.*

Uninterrupted tradition has referred the carving to the Battle of Bosworth. Shall I venture to break the thread of that tradition, and say that it is nothing more nor less than the Judgment of Paris and its consequence? Paris is seated, habited in his Phrygian robe and bonnet, amusing himself with his lute, when the three goddesses present themselves to him. The next scene is his adjudgment of the prize, when Juno, as queen of heaven, leads the way, followed by Venus, disclosing all her charms, and she by Pallas, with the Gorgon's head and ægis. Paris, won over by the attractions of Venus and her assistant son, who is hovering in the air above, adjudges to her the apple, which he holds in his left hand. We next view him, armed *cap-à-pie*, reclining, perhaps at the foot of the statue of his patroness, meditating his conquest, his lance lying by him, and his horse saddled and bridled. The reclining warrior and the horse are the only figures in the piece that could possibly suggest the idea of the Battle of Bosworth; but the latter might with equal propriety have been taken for the Trojan horse as for that of Richard III. or Paris for that king. Below, in the left corner, we see Paris and one of his friends prepared with horses to carry off Helen, and in the distance they are seen offering up their vows in the temple of Venus, or, perhaps, solemnizing their nuptials, the horse or horses waiting without. R. G.

[1810, *Part I., pp.* 628, 629.]

Passing through Ipswich, I was induced to transcribe the following monumental inscriptions:

* Kirby's "Suffolk Traveller," 2nd edit., 1764, p. 56.

In the churchyard of St. Matthew, Ipswich:

1. "Sacred to the memory of Arthur Eustace, late Drum-Major to the East Essex Militia. He died Sept. 17, 1798, aged 65 years, 53 of which he was a soldier!"

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

2. "In memory of Alfred Francis Armstrong, Esq., late Captain in His Majesty's Ninth Regiment of Light Dragoons, who, in the King's Barracks at Ipswich, on the 13th of January, 1804, at the age of 36 years, was by a few days' illness taken from the service of the King. . . . This inscription, made at the desire of his affectionate brother (the Rev. Wm. Armstrong, of Mealliffe, in the county of Tipperary, in Ireland), records that his remains are here deposited."

3. "Seventh Light Dragoons. Joseph Duncan, Sergeant, died 25th May, 1804, aged 28 years. This stone is erected by the Officers and Non-commissioned Officers, to perpetuate the memory of a worthy man."

[Verses omitted.]

4. "In memory of William Wilkinson, Private, Seventh Light Dragoons, who died the 4th July, 1807, aged 38 years. Erected by the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the Troop to which he belonged, as a sincere testimony of their esteem. He served His Majesty nearly 17 years, during which period he was twice abroad on active service, when, as well as at home, he was always distinguished by an inflexible punctuality in the discharge of his duty. He was a good comrade, and a steady, faithful soldier."

5. "To the memory of John Roberts, late Riding-Master and Quarter-Master in His Majesty's Seventh (or Queen's Own) Regiment of Light Dragoons, who, after having well and truly served his King and Country for 36 years and 8 months, died universally lamented at Ipswich New Barracks on the 6th of April, 1808, aged 54 years. This stone is erected by Major-General Lord Paget, the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Privates of the Regiment, as a last mark of their esteem."

Inscription on the internal south side of St. Clement's Church, Ipswich:

"Captain Samuel Green, Mariner, late of this Parish, by his last will gave £50 to purchase a piece of land, the profits and rents thereof to be distributed to poor widows and children of Seamen of this parish, in such proportions as to them shall seem meet, annually in this church, on the 28th day of November, for ever; he having on that day, in the year of our Lord 1676, received a wonderful deliverance in a great storm at sea. He departed this life at Smyrna, the 17th February, anno 1685."

In St. Clement's churchyard, Ipswich:

"Sacred to the memory of Sir Thomas Slade, Knt., late Surveyor of His Majesty's Royal Navy, which important office, for almost sixteen years, he filled with honour to himself and advantage to the Public. He had constantly in view the improvement of the King's Yards and the English Navy, which great end he steadily pursued with unwearied application and spotless integrity. In the most endearing scenes of private life, he was an affectionate Husband, an indulgent Father, a steady Friend, and an honest Man. He died at Bath, the 22d day of February, 1771, in the sixty-eighth year of his age."

R. R. Barnes.

[1823, *Part I.*, *pp.* 326, 327.]

On April 13 the workmen, while sinking a drain across the garden of the premises formerly the site of Cardinal Wolsey's College, in

removing considerable foundations, discovered what appears to have been the crypt belonging to the priory of St. Peter and St. Paul, which formerly stood contiguous to St. Peter's Churchyard. This crypt is 8 feet below the present surface of the garden, and 5½ feet wide. The Priory (see Taylor's "Index Monasticus"), was founded in the reign of Henry II. by the ancestors of Thomas de Lacy and Alice, his wife. The churches of St. Edmund à Pountney, St. Austin, St. Mildred, St. Nicholas, St. Clement, St. Mary at Kay, St. Peter, and Thurleston, in Ipswich, and of Cretingham, Crew, Wherstead, Dokesworth; and the manors of St. Peter in Ipswich, Harrold in Burstall, St. Peter in Cretingham, and Hintlesham; and the tithes of St. Matthew in Ipswich, Letheringham, Thorp, etc., with revenues in many other parishes, were impropriated to this Priory.

Benefactors.—William de Bodevilla, or Boville, 1254.

Roger de Badele, and William his brother.

Clement Burgensis de Gippewico, 1262, who gave rents in Ipswich to sustain certain lights at the altar of the Blessed Mary, in the church of this priory.

Gerard de Wachesham, 1207.

Sir Richard de Brewse, and Alice his wife, 1276.

Dedication.—St. Peter and St. Paul.

Convent.—A small monastery, afterwards a college.

Valuations.—Taxatio Ecclesiastica, 1291 (in 54 parishes), £46 11d. valued in 1534 as a college.

Grantees.—Dugdale places this Priory amongst those aliens which were suppressed by the statute of Leicester, 2 Henry V., 1414, "Mon. Angl.," i., 1036; he is certainly mistaken, or it was again restored. It was suppressed March 6, 1527, by Cardinal Wolsey, who founded in its stead a college to the honour of the Virgin Mary. The last Prior was William Brown, who was living at the time of its suppression.

Present possessor, Dykes Alexander, Esq.

No part of this Priory, till the discovery of this crypt, was known to be remaining, though considerable foundations have at different times been dug up in St. Peter's Churchyard and the adjoining gardens; the site of the Priory occupied six acres at the dissolution. A great number of human bones, in a very perfect state, were removed in forming the drain which crosses the garden, and enters the street within a few yards of Wolsey's gateway. L. I.

Keddinton.

[1789, *Part I., p.* 197.]

In answer to the inquiries of your correspondent* respecting calico-hangings with figures as large as life, I can inform him that one of

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1788, *Part II., p.* 1136.

the rooms at the ancient mansion of the Barnardistons, at Ketton or Keddington Hall, in the county of Suffolk, is hung round with figured calico, exactly answering the description given by your correspondent. About the year 1700 several of the younger branches of that family were in Turkey and concerned in the Turkey trade, and I have no doubt these hangings were imported by them. B.

[1806, *Part I., p.* 217.]

Fig. 13 is a seal found at Kedington in Suffolk in 1805, and now in the possession of Mr. Piper, of Haverhill. It seems to be SIGILLUM AD CAUSAS VILLE DIONENSIS. E. W.

Lavenham.

[1787, *Part I., pp.* 377-379.]

The church of Lavenham in Suffolk, though now somewhat defaced by the hand of time, still bears the appearance of reverential majesty. . . . It owes its erection to the liberal spirit of ancient munificence, and stands as a lasting testimony of the pious founder's intentions. It is undoubtedly one of the best structures of Gothic architecture, if it is not the most uniform and beautiful fabric, in the county of Suffolk; it is chiefly composed of freestone, interspersed with very curious decorations of flint-work; around it, and on every side, are the arms of some noble personages, who probably were benefactors to this building; the roof of it is carved, and as well-wrought as perhaps the skill of the artist could delineate; and there are two pews, not yet wholly defaced, whose carved work may be said to vie with any in King Henry VII.'s chapel. The church is remarkably neat, and in length is 94 feet 6 inches, in width 68 feet, besides the middle aisle of the church, which is continued 26 feet to the altar, so that the whole length of the church is 156 feet 6 inches. The steeple is 141 feet high, and 42 in diameter, and in it are six large bells. The tenor is much celebrated for its admirable note; it weighs but 23, and is supposed to send forth a sound of equal strength with one of 40 hundredweight. This steeple is an excellent piece of workmanship, and may justly stand in competition with any edifice of Gothic architecture perhaps in the kingdom.

The founder of this building is not exactly attested; but that the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, and the Spring family, opulent clothiers in this town, were the principal founders of this church, is clear from the arms so variously dispersed around it. The time of its erection is also not exactly known. We are informed "that in the time of one Thomas Spring, a rich clothier, this church was old and decayed, whereupon he gave CCl. towards the repairs; and his posterity joining with the Earls of Oxford, the posterity of his daughter finished it" ("Mag. Brit. Hib. Antiqua et Nova," p. 117). And

Weever says that Thomas Spring died A.D. M.D.X., and was buried under a monument on the north side of the chancel, and that he built both the south and north chapels on each side of the chancel (Weever's "Fun. Mon.," p. 167). But it is certain he errs both in chronology and exactness in these circumstances, for the following inscriptions are clearly distinguishable in two legends over the windows of these chapels. That on the south side is: "Thomæ Spring, armig. et Aliciæ uxoris ejus, qui istam capellam fieri fecerunt anno Dom. MCCCCC. vicesimo quinto"; and that on the north side is: "Simonis Branchi et Elizabeth . . . ux . . . ejus, qui istam capellam fieri fecerunt." So that, in the former of these inscriptions, it plainly appears he was mistaken in point of time when this division of the building was erected; and, in the latter, in the person mentioned by him as the founder of it; and as to the monument which he mentions, there are at this time not the most distant vestiges to be traced.

In the vestry is an old monument with this inscription:

"Orate pro animabus Thomæ Spring, qui hoc vestibilum fieri fecit in vita sua, et Margerete uxoris ejus; qui quidem Thomas obiit septimo die mensis Septembris A.D. mill'imo CCCCLXXXVI. et predicta Margereta obiit . . die . . . A.D. mill'imo CCCCLXXX.; quorum animabus propicietur Deus. Amen."

Hence it is collected that this Thomas Spring built the vestry, and it may scarce be doubted but that he, joining with some of the De Veres, who were then lords of the honour of Lavenham, laid the foundation of this noble building. There are on every side the arms of many of the nobility emblazoned in the sculpture; of De Vere, with those of Nevil, Howard, and Montague; the arms of Monthermer, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford; the archiepiscopal arms of Canterbury, and those of the Bishop of London; and near the top of the steeple are twenty-six coats, with the arms of the Springs only. The porch must be allowed to be of excellent architecture, very splendidly embellished with the arms of many of the most noble families in this kingdom, many being encircled with garters, and upon the whole this may well be styled of admirable sculpture.

It would be an injury to omit noticing a very curious monument of alabaster and marble on the left-hand side of the altar, both gilded and painted, erected to the memory of the Rev. Henry Copinger. There are represented the figures of himself, wife, and twelve children; also two angels, each having a scroll in his hand, in one of which is, "Dilecti, accipite coronam vitæ"; in the other, "Mortui, venite ad judicium"; over one angel, upon the corona of the cornice, is, "Novissimus lectus sepulchrum"; and over the other, "Viventes sequentur mortuos." In a large panel on the left side is this inscription:

"Sacrum memoriæ Henrici Copingeri, antiquissima Copingerorum familia in agro hoc Suffolciensi oriundi, hujus ecclesiæ quadraginta et quinque annos

pastoris pacifici, fidelissimi, et vigilantissimi, monumentum hoc, amoris et pietatis ergo dilectissima uxor Anna, marito optime merenti heu invita superstes mœrens posuit."

On the right side is this inscription :

"This monument was erected at the sole costs of Mrs. Ann Copinger, in memory of her deare husband, the reverend, learned, and godly divine, Mr. Henry Copinger, of Buxhall, in this countie, Esquire, by Agnes his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Jermine of Rushbrooke Hall, Knight, the paineful and vigillant rector of this church by the space of 45 yeares, prebendarie of the Metropolitane Church of St. Peter in Yorke, lord of the town, and patron of the church of Buxhall aforesaide, who marryed Ann, daughter to Henry Fisher, of Linne in Norfolk, gent.; by her had 8 sonnes and 4 daught'; dyed peaceably the 21 Decem. anno 1622."

Under the whole is this inscription :

"Justorum memoria benedicetur."

In the north aisle of the church is to be seen a small monument, with a man and woman engraven in brass. From the man's mouth proceeds a label with these words: "In manus tuos, Domine, commendo spiritum meum"; and under this is distinctly to be read these lines [omitted].

Something to the east of this is, on the wall, an inscription of a curious nature. It had lain dormant many years; but the man who new whitewashed the church some years since observed it, and it is now much mutilated by the power of time, and is with great difficulty to be distinguished. The lines are without any date or other type of monumental inscription. They commence as follows :

"Thou Lord, which from the Spanish yoake,
And from the powder blast,
And from the former sickness stroake,
And from this newly past,
Hast saved us, and ours, and thine;
So many as survive,
Oh, do not of Thy grace divine
Our feeble soules deprive!"

In the chancel there is an ancient gravestone which once bore a Saxon inscription, but the marks are entirely erased by the depredations of time. Adjoining this is an inscription, without a date, over a child of some importance, as follows :

"Immatura morte, nisi quod adeo Opt. Max. ita decretum, ex miserâ hac vita ereptus, die ix. Julii, diebus a nativitate decem, a baptismo quatuor, Clopton D'Ewes armiger filius et hæres apparens Simonds D'Ewes equitis aurati et dominæ Annæ conjugis suæ filiæ unicæ et hæredis Gulielmi Clopton militis: beatam cujus animam fide medici sibi ipsi optimè cognitis imbutam æternus (ut confiditur) misericordiarum Pater inter beatum sanctorum chorum in cœlis elocavit."

Domesday Book observes that Lavenham was one of the twenty-two honours in Suffolk that William the Conqueror distributed among his nobles. Camden leaves it wholly unnoticed, which causes some to suspect it was of no material importance for its manufactures. . . .

I have enclosed a plan of the church for the use of your readers, who may by that judge of its uniformity (see Plate II.).

CLIO.

[1839, *Part II., p.* 240.]

On an altar-tomb in the churchyard of Lavenham, Suffolk, is the following inscription :

"Every man living is altogether vanity. He heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them. Here lyeth the Body of JOHN WILES, Batchelor, late of this Parish, who departed this Life upon the 16th of December, in the year of our Lord 1694, Aged 50 years.

"Quod fuit esse quod est quod non fuit esse quod esse,
Esse quod est non esse quod est non est erit esse."

On an oval at the head :

"Go | set thine house | in order, for thou | shalt die, and not | live."

The two Latin verses above have been often quoted, but never, to my knowledge, with any satisfactory explanation of their meaning. The following is one attempt, which has been taken from T. Martin's 'Church Notes," and does not appear a very happy one :

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11.
"Quod fuit esse, quod est, quod non fuit esse, quod esse,
Esse quod est, non esse quod est, non est, erit esse."
12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22.

"The stops and figures are added for the better understanding the interpretation, which I conjecture to be this, viz. :—To esse is taken to signify existence, or the state or manner of existing : and then the meaning I conjecture to be something like this :

"(1, 2, 3) Quod fuit esse, what our existence hath been ; (4, 5) quod est, what it is ; (6, 7, 8, 9) quod non fuit esse, what it hath not been ; (10, 11) quod esse, what (or whatsoever) existence (or being, sibi vult) means ; (12, 13, 14) esse quod est, to be what it is (at present) (19, 20, 22) non est esse, is not (our) existence (or manner of being) (15, 16, 17, 18) non esse quod est, not to be what it is (at present), (21, 22) erit esse, will be our existence or being.—1 Cor. xv., 'We shall all be changed in a moment.'

"N.B. The first verse may be in interrogatives, Quod fuit esse? quod est? quod non fuit esse? Quod esse?"

I am not going to attempt to construe these lines, with which I have sadly puzzled some good Latin scholars, nor will I affirm that any intelligible sense can be made out of them ; but I think we shall be able to come at the meaning of the author if we refer to the following passages in Scripture, which he seems fond of quoting :

"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be ; and that which is done is that which shall be done : and there is no new thing under the sun."—Ecclesiastes i. 9.

"That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past."—*Ibid.*, iii. 15.

D. A. Y.

[1839, *Part II.*, *pp.* 351, 352.]

I venture to suggest the following interpretation of the two singular Latin lines inscribed on the tomb of John Wiles, in Lavenham Churchyard. I think a clue to their meaning is found in the tenor or general purport of the two quotations from Holy Writ which accompany them.

I propose the following punctuation:

> "Quod fuit esse, quod est? quod non fuit esse quod esse,
> Esse, quod est? Non esse quod est non est, erit esse."

I would translate them thus, literally:

"What hath been to be, what is it? To be, what hath not been to be what it is to be, what is it? Not to be what is is not, will be to be."

And I would thus paraphraze them, in explanation of the above translation:

"What hath been to be, what is it?" *What is it to have been, or existed?* or, *What is past mortal life?* ("To be," signifies life; "what hath been to be," life past, or gone.)

"To be what hath not been to be what it is to be, what is it?" *What is it to be in a new and future state of being?* or, *What is a coming future life?* ("To be what it is to be," signifies a coming state of existence; "What hath not been to be," that it is new and untried. The expression, "What hath not been [hitherto] to be what it is to be," is the contrary, or opposite to the previous description of past mortal life: This last is expressed as, "What hath been to be." Future life is expressed as, "What hath not been to be what it is to be.")

The last clause, "Not to be, what is is not, will be to be," I paraphrase thus:

To live for ever, will be the future state: or, *a future state will be never to cease to be*, or *to exist.* ("Will be to be," is equivalent to *futurity is:* "not to be what is is not," that is, *to live for ever;* or, *to die no more;* or, *no more to be, not being.*)

In this suggested translation, there is no * transposition of any word: only the insertion of two interrogatives and some stops. However quaint and fanciful the Latin lines may be, they must be allowed to contain a very intelligible sense, and one very appropriate

* The first "esse," in the second line I have, in the literal translation, placed at the beginning of the second interrogatory; but this is not essential, for that second question might quite as properly be thus translated: "What hath not been to be what it is to be, To be (*i.e.*, to be this), what is it?"

to their situation—on a tombstone; as well as according with the rest of the inscription.

The sense of the whole is briefly this: Mortal life is vanity; futurity is unknown; but it will be an eternal state.

If any of your correspondents can propose what is better, I shall be glad to see it; and remain, JACOBUS.

[1840, *Part I., p.* 142.]

In reading the lines in the churchyard at Lavenham, in Suffolk, signed D. A. Y.—

"Quod fuit esse quod est quod non fuit esse quod esse,
Esse quod est non esse quod est non est erit esse"—

which the writer says has puzzled many good Latin scholars, it appears to me that it should thus be deciphered: "That which has been, is the same as that which is: that which has not been, is the same as that which has been. To be, is the same as not to be; that which is, is not, it will be, to be."

The whole is a quaint enigma on the old moral reflection of the fleeting nature of time, and is well illustrated by the passages quoted from Ecclesiastes by the writer. The object of the lines is to prove that nothing really exists in time; and the reasoning is as follows:

That which *has been*, is the same as that which *is;*

That which has *not been*, is the same as that which *has been;*

(*Therefore*), That which has *not been*, is the same as that which *is*.

Or, in other words, there is no real absolute temporal existence; the *present*, *past*, and *future* being one and the same. J. M.

[1787, *Part II., p.* 680.]

"The epitaph in the churchyard of Lavenham, to the memory of John Wiles, a bachelor," appears a gross perversion of the Roman tongue, fabricated many years before 1694. My own recollection supplies not sufficient authority for an assurance that I have seen the monkish distich in any particular work; though I have some idea that the lines have been otherwise applied than to Bachelor Wiles; whom perhaps, however, they may suit as well as they would any other person. E. B. G.

[1861, *Part II., p.* 364.]

The noble Perpendicular church of Lavenham, in Suffolk, is at present in course of restoration, and what has been already done is effected in good taste. We regret to hear, however, as too often happens, that the work turns out to be much more expensive than was at first contemplated, and funds are urgently wanted to carry it to a satisfactory conclusion. From a local paper (the *Bury Post*) we see that the roof of the nave, which was in a very dangerous state,

has been secured, the lead has been renewed, the interior has been cleared of its many coats of whitewash, an ugly organ-gallery has been swept away, and the fine east window (formerly blocked at its lower part) restored to its true proportions:

"It is now filled with stained glass, representing the Crucifixion, with an inscription from the Litany, and the Virgin and St. John, St. Peter and St. Paul, in the lower lights; the emblems of the Evangelists above, and a 'Majesty' in the apex; whilst a Latin inscription intimates that it has been placed there by the Rector (the Rev. J. M. Croker) as a memorial to his parents. Messrs. Lavers and Barraud are the artists, and its execution (especially in the chief figure) is exceedingly good. The window on the south side of the communion-table is also to be filled with stained glass, representing the infant life of Christ, and the west window with the life of St. Peter, to whom the church is dedicated, both these being the gifts of Messrs. Thompson, the Rector's brothers-in-law.

"The sums collected for the undertaking have amounted to about £1,450, of which the parishioners have liberally raised £300 by rate, and a somewhat larger sum by voluntary contributions, and the Rector and his family and friends have supplied a large portion of the remainder; but, when the paving and fitting up of the chancel have been completed, these resources will be exhausted, leaving nothing for the aisle roofs, which are in a deplorable state—not even weather-tight, and for restoring which £300 or £400 will be required, reserving for some future time the re-seating of the church, which is highly desirable."

To complete these works an appeal, which we trust will be successful, is now made to the public by the Rector. The church has been pronounced by Mr. Penrose, the architect under whose direction the works are carried on, to be the finest Perpendicular church in England; and considering the change which has taken place in the little "town" of Lavenham since the days when its prosperous clothiers lent their aid to rear this house to God's honour, the call which is now made upon all who love the Church, to rescue the edifice from dilapidation, and to restore it to its pristine strength and beauty, ought not to be disregarded.

Long Melford.

[1830, *Part II., pp.* 204, 205.]

In 1794, Craven Ord, Esq., F.S.A., in a letter to the Earl of Leicester, President of the Society of Antiquaries, gave an account of a basso-relievo, or tablet of alabaster, painted and gilt, in Long Melford Church in Suffolk, representing the offering of the wise men. This letter was published, accompanied by a very correct representation of the tablet, drawn by J. Carter, F.S.A.

The three kings in this very ancient sculpture exactly answer the

description of them given by the venerable Bede. Melchior (King of Arabia) having presented the apple of gold, which the infant Jesus holds in his hand, he is in the act of presenting with his left hand the 30 gilt pence, in something like an urn, and with his right hand he is taking off his crown. Balthazar (King of Saba) is following with a box of myrrh, and Gaspar (King of Egypt) is young, and has no beard; he is the last, and has a jar of frankincense. The pillow of the Virgin is supported by a female, and at the foot of the couch Joseph is sitting in a chair.

I am happy to say that this relic is still well preserved in Melford Church; it is inserted in the wall of the north aisle belonging to Kentwell Hall, which was for centuries the residence of the ancient family of Clopton.* I find in the churchwardens' accounts the following items (with a great number of other curious entries); and it is probable that this tablet is there alluded to.

"Thys ys the reckenyng made by Wyll'm Dyke & Wyll'm Marchall, Churchewardens fro the fest of sent John baptyst In the fyrst yer^{e} of the reygn of Kyng Edward the VIth unto the sonday aft' Sent Lewke In the second yer^{e} of o^{r} sov'ayn Lord Kyng Edward the VIth, before the chefeste of the parysh & inhabytors of the towne of Melford, as well of the gere takyn down by the Kyngs comandyment & vysytors as in the Kyngs Injunccyons doth appere, in the xxviii artycle doth appere and other places, as of the other goods belongyng unto Melford Church that was to you delyv'ed.

"It.—Sold to Mast' Clopton the greatest Image aboute the Chyrche & Chappell of Alebast' for iii^{s}.

"It.—Sold to M. Clopton the Alt'. of Alebast' in owr Ladys Chapell, vi^{s}. viii^{d}.

"An^{d} lefte unto Mast' Clopton ij stonys at the end of the Alt'. In Mast' Cloptons yelde, *& the Tabyll of Allebaster In the sayd yelde*, & a lytell Tabyll In Sent Annys Chappell, & all the gere therin to dr's up the Chappell & dyscharge the Churchewardens, & to do y^{t} at hys plesur."

The injunctions appear to have given great offence in this neighbourhood, and a rebellion actually broke out in consequence in Norfolk and Suffolk; an engagement took place near Lynn, in which several persons were slain.†

In 1562, I find the following entries in the Melford Black Book; the church requiring to be again cleansed after the reign of Mary.

"Item.—Payde to Prime for the scraping owt of the pay'tinges all y^{e} lengthe of the Quire, x^{s}. vi^{d}.

"Item.—Payde for the Injunccions, iiii^{d}.

"Item.—For ii bokes of prayer and of fasting that were latlye set forth, viii^{d}."

* See the pedigree in Cullum's "History of Hawstead"

† See Blomefield's "Norfolk," vol. ii., p. 158.

In 1576 the work of spoliation was again pursued.

"Item.—P^d^ to Flyemyn the Glasyer of Sudburye for defacynge of the sentence and Imagerye in the glasse Wyndowes, 11^s^."

The parishioners must either have been very unwilling to obey the injunctions, or the workmen employed "to deface" had not done their duty, as a most valuable collection of painted glass remains to this day. The "scraping owt" the paintings had been well done in the quire, except one near the communion-table; but in the body of the church they had only been whitewashed over. The whitewash, which had been accumulating ever since, was carefully scraped off this summer, and the old paintings were perceptible. Over each pillar was represented an angel or saint, standing on a pedestal, with several labels of religious Latin sentences issuing from their mouths. They were too much defaced to be copied.

This beautiful church had been ornamented with a running border of vine-leaves and grapes, painted with red ochre, round the windows, which does not accord with our ideas of the richness and elegance of the large churches before the Reformation. R. ALMACK.

The church of Long Melford is well illustrated in vol. ii. of Neale's "Views of Churches," by six beautiful plates. Mr. Neale has given a good account of the church, which he was enabled to do by the kindness of Rev. W. T. Spurdens, who communicated some interesting MS. collections. The first is a minute account of the church and beautiful painted glass, written by a former rector in 1688; and the second is a curious MS. by Roger Martin, Esq., written about the time of the Reformation, giving so many interesting particulars of the religious ceremonies observed at this church, that we are induced to append it to our correspondent's letter.

"The state of Melford Church and our Ladie's Chappel at the East end, as I did know it.

"*Memorand.*—At the back of the High Altar, in the said Church, there was a goodly mount, made of one great tree, and set up to the foot of the window there, carved very artificially with *The Story of Christ's Passion*, representing the horsemen with their swords, and the footmen, &c., as they used Christ on the Mount of Calvary, all being fair gilt, and lively and beautifully set forth. To cover and keep clean all the which, there were very fair and painted boards, made to shut to, which were opened upon high and solemn Feast Days, which then was a very beautiful shew; which painted boards were set up again in Queen Mary's time. At the north end of the same altar, there was a goodly tilt tabernacle, reaching up to the roof of the Chancell, in the which there was one fair large gilt image of *The Holy Trinity*, being patron of the Church, besides other fair images. The like tabernacle was at the south end.

"There was also in my Ile, called Jesus Ile, at the back of the

Altar, a table with a crucifix on it, with the two thieves hanging, on every side one, which is in my house decayed, and the same I hope my heires will repaire and restore again, one day. There was also two fair gilt tabernacles, from the ground up to the roofe, with a fair *Image of Jesus*, in the tabernacle, at the north end of the altar, holding a round bawle in his hand, signifying, I think, that he containeth the whole round world; and, in the tabernacle, at the south end, there was a fair image of our Blessed Lady having the afflicted body of her dear Son, as he was taken down, off the cross, lying along in her lapp, the tears, as it were, running down pittifully upon her beautiful cheeks, as it seemed, bedewing the said sweet body of her son, and therefore named *The Image of our Lady of Pity*.

"*Memorand.*—There was a fair Rood Loft, with the Rood, Mary and John, of every side, and with a fair pair of organs standing thereby; which loft extended all the breadth of the Church, and on Good Friday, a Priest, then standing by the Rood, sang the *Passion*. The side thereof, towards the body of the church, in twelve partitions in boards, was fair painted with the images of the twelve Apostles.

"All the roof of the Church was beautified with fair gilt stars. Finally, in the vestry, where there were many rich copes and suites of vestments, there was a fair press, with fair large doors to shut to, wherein there were made devises to hang on all the copes, without folding or frumpling of them, with a convenient distance the one from the other.

"In the Quire was a fair planted frame of timber, to be set up about Maunday Thursday, with holes for a number of fair tapers to stand in before the sepulchre, and to be lighted in service time. Sometimes it was set overthwart the Quire before the Altar, the sepulchre being alwaies placed, and finely garnished, at the north end of the High Altar; between that and Mr. Clopton's little chappel there, in a vacant place of the wall, I think upon a tomb of one of his ancestors, the said frame with the tapers was set near the steps going up to the said Altar. Lastly, it was used to be set up, all along by Mr. Clopton's Ile, with a door, made to go out of the rood loft into it.

"Upon Palm Sunday the Blessed Sacrament was carryed in procession about the churchyard, under a fair canopy, borne by four yeomen; the procession coming to the church gate, went westward, and they with the Blessed Sacrament went eastward; and when the procession came against the door of Mr. Clopton's Ile, they with the Blessed Sacrament, and with a little bell and singing, approached at the east end of our Ladie's Chappell, at which time a boy with a thing in his hand pointed to it, signifying a prophet, as I think, sang, standing on the tyrret, that is, on the said Mr. Clopton's ile doore, *Ecce Rex tuus, venit, &c.;* and then all did kneel down, and then, rising up, went and met the sacrament, and so then, went singing

together, into the church, and coming near the porch, a boy, or one of the clerks, did cast over among the boys flowers, and singing cakes, &c.

"On Corpus Christi day, they went likewise with the Blessed Sacrament in procession about the church green in copes, and I think also, they went in procession, on St. Mark's day, about the said green, with handbells ringing before them, as they did about the bounds of the town, in Rogation week, on the Monday one way, on the Tuesday another way, and on the Wednesday another, praying for rain or fair weather, as the time required, having a drinking and a dinner there, upon Munday, being fast day; and Tuesday, being a fish day, they had a breakfast with butter and cheese, &c., at the Parsonage, and a drinking at Mr. Clopton's by Kentwell, at his manor of Lutons, near the pond in the Park, where there was a little chappel, I think of St. Anne, for that was their longest perambulacion. Upon Wednesday, being fasting day, they had a drinking at Melford Hall. All the Quire dined there, three times in the year at least, viz., St. Stephen's Day, Midlent Sunday, and I think upon Easter Monday.

"On St. James's Day, Mass being sung then by note, and the organs going in St. James's chappel, which were brought into my house with the clock and bell, that stood there, and the organs which stood upon the rood loft, that was then a little from the rood, which chappel had been maintained by my ancestors; and therefore I will, that my heires, when time serve, shall repair, place there, and maintain all these things again. There were also fair stooles, on either side, such as are in the Church, which were had away by John King's means, who was Sir William Cordell's bayliff, about which chapel there was paled in, round about, a convenient piece of the green, for one to walk in.

"*Memorand.*—On St. James's Even their was a bonefire, and a tub of ale, and bread, then given to the poor, and before my doore there were made three other bonefires, viz., on Midsummer Even, on the Even of St. Peter and Paul, when they had the like drinkings, and on St. Thomas's Even, on which if it fell not on the fish day, they had some long pies of Mutton, and pease-cods, set out upon boards with the aforesaid quantity of bread and ale; and in all these bonfires, some of the friends and more civil poor neighbours were called in, and sat at the board, with my grandfather, who had at the lighting of the bonefires, wax tapers, with balls of wax, yellow and green, set up, all the breadth of the hall, lighted then and burning there, before the image of *St. John the Baptist;* and after they were put out, a watch candle was lighted and set in the midst of the said hall, upon the pavement, burning all night.

"This was transcribed by Mr. Johnathan Moor, by my order, out of certain papers written by, and belonging to Mr. Roger Martin, of

Melford, who died circ. 23d Eliz. 1580. These papers were showed to me by Mr. Valentine Martin, and were part of the large MS. book lately wasted. N.B.—12th April, 1692."

[1830, *Part II., p.* 352-355.]

In our last we gave some particulars of the religious ceremonies in Long Melford Church, Suffolk. We now add, from Mr. Neale's valuable work, one of the most curious lists of ancient church furniture and utensils that was ever made public.

A Note of the Utensils and Furniture belonging to Melford Church, and the Chappel adjoyning, taken Anno 1529, and transcribed by me out of a paper Book belonging to Sir Roger Martin, Baronet, this 30th day of September, 1686. Witness my hand,—Nath. Bisbie.

The Account made by John Dyke and Rob. Cawston, Wardens of the Church of Melford, the 11th day of December, in the year of our Lord God 1529, and in the 21st year of the reign of King Henry VIII.

First, of the Plate, Ornaments, and Goods, belonging to the said Church.

A chalice, parcel gilt, weighing 13 oz. A chalice, whole gilt, the gift of Mr. Kerver, late parson of Melford, 31 oz. 1 dwt. A chalice, parcel gilt, three of the feet broken, belonging to Mr. Clopton's altar, 10 oz. A chalice, the gift of Sir Thomas Turret, late priest of Melford, parcel gilt, 9 oz. 3 dwt. A chalice, the gift of Mawt Barker, belonging to Jesus altar, parcel gilt, 21 oz. 3 dwt. A chalice, belonging to Jesus altar, the gift of Miriam Coort, 22 oz. A chalice, the gift of Jone Ellis, belonging to John Hill's altar, parcel gilt, 15 oz. A chalice, double gilt, with a quadrant crucifix upon the foot, 41½ oz. A chalice, the gift of Mr. John Clopton, double gilt, with his arms upon the foot of the backside, 22½ oz. A chalice, the gift of John Mason, parcel gilt, 13 oz. A chalice, the gift of John Hill, gilt, 20 oz. The best chalice, gilt, 133½ oz. A chalice, parcel gilt, which was some time in the keeping of Jeffrey Foot, 20 oz. A monstrar to bear in the blessed Sacrament, the gift of Mr. John Clopton, and Sir John Langham, Knt., and their wives, of silver and gilt, with a crucifix of gold, 13 oz. A relique of the pillar that our Saviour Christ was bound to, the gift of Sir Wm. Clopton, Knt., inclosed with silver. Two basons of silver, and parcel gilt, the gift of John Hill, 132 oz. A silver pot, the gift of Mother Barrel, 32 oz. A pax of silver, parcel gilt, with a crucifix of iron, 10½ oz. A pax, the gift of Robert Jermyn, parcel gilt, 13¼ oz. A pax, the gift of Isabel Boolington, parcel gilt, 13¾ oz. A cross, with Mary and John, clean gilt, 45½ oz. A cross, the gift of Robert Dyster, silver, and gilt,

53½ oz. A pix of silver, and parcel gilt, 21¾ oz. A chrysmatory of silver, parcel gilt, for oil and cream, 22 oz. A little chrysmatory of silver, and enamelled, to bear in the holy oil of extreme unction, which cost 10s. 1d., above 1 oz. A ship of silver, and parcel gilt, the gift of Foot, 9½ oz. Another ship of silver, parcel gilt, the Batchellor's gift, 13¼ oz. The said ship was given Anno 1517. Two silver candlesticks, parcel gilt, the gift of old John Smith, 61 oz. A censer, the gift of Trinity Guild, parcel gilt, 33¼ oz. Another censer, the gift of Our Lady Guild, parcel gilt, 31½ oz. Two cruetts of silver, parcel gilt, the gift of young John Deek, 10½ oz. Other two cruetts of silver, parcel gilt, the gift of Mr. Roger Smith, 13½ oz.

Hereafter specifieth of all such Jewells, with other ornaments, pertaining to Our Lady Chappel, in Melford aforesaid.

First, a girdle, the gift of Mad. Brooke, of silver, and enamelled with ten bars, and the corse is green, weighing with the corse 12½ oz.; now it is stolen. A red girdle, the gift of Mad. Tye, weighing, with the cross, 4 oz.; now stolen. Ten langets of silver, the gift of the said Alice Tye, weighing 1¼ oz. with the strings.

Rings of Silver, and some gilt.

Three rings upon the apron of our Lady. Two little rings, one shelling another. Four little rings shelled together, in silver. Upon the said apron, a spon of silver, which spon was broken, to set in the stones about our Lady. An ouch of gold, and enamelled, with one stone in the midst of it, with three perls about it. A pair of beads, of coral, with the Pater Noster of silver, and upon the same beads one piece of coral closed in silver, and one buckle of silver. A pair of small jett beads, with a button of silver, and gilt, for the Crede, and upon the same beads be twenty-three small round beads of silver. A stone enclosed with silver, and gilt, with the Trinity graven on the backside. A lyon, or lebard, parcel guilt, with a chain to the same. A piece of carall, closed in silver, the gift of Alice Tye. A buckle, with ten stones set in the same. A buckle of silver and gilt, with thirteen square chequers upon it. A buckle, with three stones in it, and three are out. An Agnus Dei, inclosed in silver, and gilt. Two other, like hoops, with either of them four branches upon them of silver. Ten other like small buckles, whereof four be silver, and I suppose the other is none. Upon the said apron 11 grants. One stone closed in cloth. In small pence 21d. ob. A little stone closed in silver. Sum of the weight of all these jewells weighing with the apron, 22 oz.

Coats belonging to our Lady.

First, a coat for the good days, of cloth of tissue, bordered with white; and for her son another of the same, in like case. A coat of

crimson velvet, and another for her son, in like case. A coat of white damask, and another for her son, in like case, bordered about with green velvet. An altar cloth of white branched damask, of the same, bordered with green velvet. A vestment of green satin. Another vestment of white fustian. A printed mass-book. Two corporasses.

Copes and Vestments belonging to Melford Church.

As hereafter followeth: First, the best cope of cloth tissue, the gift of Simond Smith. Another cope of cloth of tissue, the gift of Robert Hayward. A cope of red velvet, branched with gold, with the suit of the same, called the best suit. A cope of blue velvet, branched with gold, with a suit of the same. A cope of red velvet, with a suit of the same, called Cokket's suit. A cope of red silk, for Good Friday, with the vestment of the same. A cope of crimson velvet, the gift of Will. Deek, and Margery his wife. The suit of the same, the gift of Mrs. Nonnells of London. A suit of white branched damask, with two copes to the same. A suit, over worn, of black damask, with the cope to the same. Two quire copes of blue sattin. A cope of blue velvet with starrs. A vestment of red velvet, the gift of John Hill's wife, with the name of Jesus in many places written in gold, of the same, belonging to John Hill's altar. Two old quire copes. A vestment of cloth of bawdkin, with birds, called the Sunday vestment. A vestment of red sarsnet, the gift of Miriam Court, belonging to Jesus' altar. A red vestment, with green in the midst, the gift of Sir Thomas Turret, priest, which by his will must be in keeping of Mr. Martin's priest, and to be used by his priest, and kept in the coffer standing in Jesus Ile, which coffer, or hutch, was of the said Sir Thomas's gift; belonging to Jesus altar. A chasuble and two tunicles of red silk, with birds, whereof the albs be in decay. Now amended. Thirteen single chasubles, with some of their albs in decay. A cope of green velvet, with a suit of the same, the gift of Jone Foot, widow, in the year of our Lord God 1516.

Altar Cloaths.

Two altar cloths of tissue and crimson velvet, the gift of John Smith. An altar cloth of white damask in our Lady Chappel, of the said John Smith's gift. An altar cloth, the gift of Thomas Ellis and Roger Fuller, of cloth of bawdkyn. An altar cloth of blew damask, with garters upon the same cloth, the gift of Mr. John Clopton, with all such cloths of silk as belongeth to the sepulchre. An altar cloth of silk, with blew birds, bordered with blew velvet and blew worsted, the which was made of the old cloth for to bear over the Sacrament.

Mass Books perteining to y^e^ Church.

First, two mass books belonging to the high altar. A mass book, called Jesus mass book. A mass book, the gift of John Hill. A book, the gift of Mr. Roger Smith and Rich. Butler. A mass book, the gift of Mr. Thomas Kerver, late parson of Melford. Two old mass books, one at St. James's Chapel, and the other in the Church. A mass book in print, belonging to our Lady's Chappel. A mass book, called the red mass book, with many relicks on the same, adorned with jewells and stones.

Antiphoners of the said Church.

A great cowcher, the gift of Mr. Roger Smith. A great cowcher, lying before the parish priest. A great antiphoner, lying upon the north side of the quire, before Jesus priest, the gift of Sir Thomas Turret, priest. Three other antiphoners, lying within the said quire, with two old portuasses.

Grails.

Ten grails, with one old graile. A written book of parchment, for priests to study upon, lying in our Lady Chappel, the gift of Sir John Jent, priest.

Processioners.

Nine processioners, all written. A processionary, the gift of Sir Robt. Barret, Priest. Three manuals, one written and two in print. Two old martolages. One hymnal noted, in paper, the gift of Sir Richard Dodington, priest. An old ordinal. One hymnal printed, the gift of Sir Edw. Tirrel, Joh. Hill's priest. A processioner, printed, the gift of Will. King.

Altar Cloaths belonging to y^e^ Church.

First, three altar cloths for every day, the gift of Jone Foot, widow. Ten good altar cloaths, whereof the three best be the gift of John Foot. Twenty-two altar cloths, which are simple. Two good altar cloths, belonging to our Lady Chappel. One altar cloth of diaper, given to the high altar, by Mrs. Chester, 1544 [in another hand-writing]. First, ten towels of diaper, good. Four towels of plain cloth.

Corporasses.

First, ten principal corporasses, of which five, one was of the gift of Mr. John Clopton, and another the gift of my Lady Clopton; the third, the gift of Mrs. Court; the fourth, the gift of Mrs. Catherine Foxmere; the fifth, the gift of Mrs. Jane Clopton. One corporas belonging to St. Ann's altar. Another corporas to Jesus altar. Another corporas to John Hill's altar. Another corporas to St. Edmund's altar. Two corporases belonging to the altar of our Lady

Chappel. A cloth of blue silk to bear over the sacrament, with chalices of gold embroidered thereon, the gift of Robert Miller. Two corporasses, with their cloths of crimson velvet, embroidered with gold. A corporas case, with the Resurrection upon it, embroidered with images of gold inwardly. All these belong to the high altar. Other corporasses in the custody of the chantry priest.

Coverlets.

First, a coverlet of linnen and woolen, for the herse, the gift of Jone Jent. A pall cloak, very simple. Four cloths, to lay upon the altar, of black buckram. An old coverlet, of linen and woolen, which serves to pluck before the cross, on Palm Sunday.

Lattyn pertaining to the Church.

Two great candlesticks. Two second candlesticks, lately bought, which are called secondans. Two small candlesticks to the high altar. Two small candlesticks to Jesus' altar, both of lattyn. A candlestick of lattin, with ten branches, standing before the image of Jesus. A candlestick. A candlestick, ten branches, before St. Ann. A candlestick, with three branches, belonging to the Trinity; and now the said candlestick standeth before the image of St. Nicholas. A candlestick with ten branches, standing before the high altar. Two little pretty candlesticks of lattin, belonging to John Hill's altar. A candlestick of lattin, with ten branches, now in the vestry. A candlestick of lattin, with three branches, now in the vestry.

Holy-Water Pailes of Lattin.

Two holy-water pailes of lattin, with one holy-water stick of lattin.

Basons and Ewer.

Two basons and one ewer of lattin. To the blessed sacrament belong two canopy cloths. Two great lectornes of lattin in the quire, whereof two of the feet be broken. One censer of copper and gilt. One ewer of pewter. A ladder, the gift of Giles Ellis, standing at the steeple door. Three cross staves, twain good, and one simple.

Chests.

A great chest, upon the vestry cellar, with two great locks to the same, of iron, the gift of Mr. Clopton. Which two great locks broken by the thieves, Jan. 13, 1531, "qua die spoliata fuit ista ecclesia Melfordiensis." Another chest, upon the said soler, with one lock. Another plain hutch there, with one lock. One simple chest in the vestry beneath. Another chest in the said vestry. Another chest in the said vestry, with an old chest, to lay in copes, all in the keeping of the sexton. At Jesus' altar, a chest, the gift of

Sir Thomas Turret, priest. Another chest at the quire door, and now in the vestry. In our Lady's Chappel two old chests in decay. Another hutch, in St. Ann's Chapel.

Crosses.

A cross, of copper and gilt, for the week days. A simple cross, without y^e^ feet.

Cross Cloaths.

A cross cloth, of silk, the gift of Mr. Roger Martin. Another cross cloth, the gift of Mr. Skern, some time parson of Melford. Three other cross cloths, simple, with one simple cross cloth of silk, with three cross staves. A cross cloth of silk, the batchellors' gift, 1530, which cost 11s. 8d. Two streamers of silk, one the batchellors' gift, the other of Corpus Christi Guild. Three banner cloths, the gift of the Guild of our Lady, Corpus Christi, and St. Peter. A coffer, the gift of Sir Will. Hodson. Two candlesticks of lattin, standing at the said altar. In the vestry, two short ladders. In the church-house, a table of beech, the gift of Mr. Roger Martin. Two other tables lying in the mole, with one forme. One forme in our Lady Chappel, the gift of John Fuller. In the Church two lanterns, to go with a visitation, and one of them is in decay. In the church-house is another forme. At the high altar, one simple altar-cloth hanging before the said altar, for every day. One for Lent, with whips, and with angels. Before the image of the Trinity, at the high altar, one white cloth. A cloth of Adam and Eve to draw before the high altar, in time of Lent, called the Veil. Before our Lady, one cloth of blue. At Jesus' altar, an altar cloth painted, the gift of Maid Aleyn of Bury. To the said altar, a cloth for Lent, painted about with whips and angels. One cloth, before the image of Jesus, white. Afore our Lady of pyte, at the said altar, a painted cloth. At St. Ann's altar, a stained altar cloth, for every day. At the said altar, two cloths stained with flowers. Afore St. Ann, one cloth, white. Afore St. Leonard, one cloth, white. At John Hill's altar, one simple stained cloth. Over the said altar is a good stained cloth of the Trinity, the gift of Robert Colett. At St. Edmund's altar is a painted cloth of St. Michael and our Lady. Three long cloths hanging before the rood loft, stained or painted, with the dawnce of Powlis. A cloth hanging before the rood, called the Veil, very simple. One cloth with a vallon, before the image of St. Saviour, white. A cloth, the gift of Jone Foot, hanging before the rood loft, with three small white napkins. Before St. John the Baptist, a white cloth, with a vallon. Afore St. John the Evangelist, a stained cloth. Before St. Peter, a new white cloth. Before St. Anthony, a stained cloth, with part of the Mount. Two other little cloths hanging upon two tabernacles. Before St. James, a white cloth. Before St.

Catherine, a white cloth. Before St. Margaret, a stained cloth. Before Mary Magdalen, a cloth. Before St. Edmund, a little cloth. Before St. Sythe, a white cloth. Before St. George, two drawn curtains, stained. Before St. Thomas, a simple cloth. Before the image of St. Christopher, one cloth, white. Before the images of St. Andrew and St. Loy, one cloth, white. Three other simple cloths, to cast about divers saints in the church, some of them stained, and some other, to the sum of 13 cloths. In our Lady Chappel, an altar cloth, stained. A black buckram cloth, upon the altar. A stained cloth, hanging before the said altar. A cloth before our Lady Tabernacle. Another cloth on the other side, before the other tabernacle, white, and both cloths the gift of John Barker, of Acton. Altar cloths of sattin, of Brydges in Panes, and with flowers, and a little image of Jesus in the midst of the said cloth, which Mother Thresser, widow, bequeathed and gave to the said altar of Jesus, which cost 31s. 8d., Anno D'ni 1526. Two altar cloths, white, the gift of the brothers of our Lady Guild, in the year of our Lord God 1529.

Mem. April 6, 1541, there was given to the church of Melford two stained cloths, whereof the one hangeth towards Mr. Martin's aisle, and the other to be used about the sepulchre, at Easter time, and also a red coverlet for a fore-cloth, to the high altar. [This latter sentence is written in another hand.]

[1833, *Part II., pp.* 113, 114.]

As the inscriptions on the parapets of Long Melford Church, in Suffolk, have never been accurately published, I will now give them from copies taken in 1821.

Over the clerestory windows on the south side:

"Pray for the sowlis of Roger Moryell Margarete and Kateryn his wyffis of whos goodis the seyd Kateryn, John Clopton Mast Wyllyem Qwaytis and John Smyth dede these VI archis new repair and ded make the tabill at the awtere anno Domini Millesimo quadringentisimo octogesi° p'm. Pray for the sowl of Thomas Couper y^e^ wych y^s^ narch dede repa^re^. Pray for ye sowl of Law. Martyn and Marion his wyf' and for Richard Martyn and Elizabeth and Jone hys wyvys and frendis thyat thys chauncel repared a° Do'i M°CCCCLXX."

On the parapet of the south aisle:

"John Clopton Maist' Robt. Coteler and Thoms Elys did y^s^ arch make glase and ye ruf w^t^."

On the porch:

"Pray for y^e^ soulis of William Clopton, Margery and Margy his wifi' and for y^e^ soule of Alice Clopton and for John Clopto' and for alle thoo solis y^t^ the seyd John is bou'de to prey for."*

* Arms of Clopton: Sable, a bend argent, between two cottices zigzag.

On the south aisle:

"Pray for the soule of Rog. Morrell of who' good' y^is arch wa' made. Pray for y^e soull' of John Keche and for his fad' and mod' of who' good' y^is arche' wa' made. P'y for y^e soull' of Thom's Elys and Jone his wife and for y^e good sped of Jone Elys mak's ho'f.

"Pray for y^e soull' of John Pie, and Alys his wyf' of who' good' y^is arch wa' made and y^es twe'y wy'dowy' glasid.

"P'y for y^e souli' of John Dist' and Alis, a'd for the good sped of John Dist and Xp'ian mak's h'of. Pray for the soulis of Laurens Martyn and Marion his wyffe Elysabeth Martyn a'd Jone and for y^e good estat of Richard Martyn and Roger Martyn and y' wyvis and alle y' chyldr'n of ———, was made anno Domini Millesimo CCCC°LXXX°XIIIJ°."*

On the south side of the Lady Chapel:

"Pray for the sowle of John Hyll and for the sowle of John Clopton esqwyer and pray for the sowle of Rychard Loveday Boteler wyth John Clopton off whos gødys this Chapell ys imbaytyllyd by hys excewtors."

On the east end of the Lady Chapel:

"Pray for the soulis of William Clopto' esquyer Margery and Margy his wifis and for all ther parentis and childr'n and for the soule of Alice Clopton and for John Clopton and for all his children."

On the north side of the Lady Chapel:

"And for all tho' soulis that the seid John is bou'de to p'y for which deed y^is Chapel newe repare a° D° M° CCCC. LXXXXVI°. Christ' sit testis hec me n'o exhibuisse. Ut merear leudes set† ut spiritus memoretur Roger Smyth and Robert Smyth."‡

In the parapet of the clerestory, north side of the body:

"Pray for the sowlis of Roberd Spar'we and Marion his wife and for Thom's Cowper and M'g'et his wif of qwos goodis Mast' Gilis Dent Joh' Clopton Jo'n Smyth and Roger Smyth wyth y^e help of y^e weel disposyd me' of this town dede these sev'n archis new repare anno Domini Milesimo CCCC°."

These inscriptions are the best ornaments on the exterior of Melford Church. The extent and proportions of the building are magnificent. The windows are crowded and very handsome, and the spaces over and between them have not escaped enrichment; but the taste and talent of the sculptor are not seen to advantage in any part of this superb edifice.

Lound.

[1788, *Part II.*, *p.* 593.]

The following antiquities (see Plate III.) were found in 1776 at Lound, near Yarmouth, in Suffolk, by William Warner Mills, whilst ploughing in his field. The originals were exhibited at the Society of Antiquaries, May 1, 1788, and the drawings are faithfully taken.

* Arms of Martin: Argent, a chevron vert between three mascles, a border engrailed or.

† *Sic.*

‡ Arms of Smith: Argent, a chevron gules, between three crosslets sable. Another coat of Smyth: Ermine, three torteaux.

Fig. 1 is 7 inches long.
Fig. 2 is 11½ inches.
Fig. 3 is drawn at large.

They are now, together with several helmets found at the same time and place, in the possession of Mr. Daniel Boulter of Yarmouth.

Fig. 4 in the same plate is a key plated with gold, found May 27, 1788, in a drain, near to the foundation of Ely Chapel.

Fig. 5 represents Jupiter's conjunction with the moon, December 23, 1787, observed at Borsa, Orkney, by the Rev. George Low.

M. GREEN.

Lowestoft.

[1800, *Part II., p.* 722.]

The antique iron key (Fig. 2) was discovered in the foundation of the wall of Lowestoft churchyard, which was taken down to enlarge the burying-ground in 1794.

Fig. 3 is another ancient piece of iron, perhaps part of a vane, found behind a fireplace in this town. ISAAC GILLINGWATER.

[1819, *Part I., pp.* 115, 116.]

The remains of the late Rev. Robert Potter were interred in the churchyard of Lowestoft, where till very lately they were without either monument or inscription, as he had decidedly expressed an aversion to both during his lifetime, as well as to the too frequent practice of interring in churches, which he never permitted when he could with propriety prevent it. His memory, however, continues to be gratefully cherished by his parishioners, who have erected a plain table monument in the churchyard against the north wall of the chancel, with the following inscription:

"Near to this place are interred the remains of the Rev. ROBT. POTTER, A.M., a Prebendary of NORWICH, and also Vicar of Lowestoft and Kessingland, with which preferment his highly-deserved literary fame, as 'the learned and elegant Translator of Æschylus' and other Greek dramatic Poets, was nobly rewarded. Endeared to the inhabitants of this Parish, by his open, manly, and generous attachment to their general welfare, and earnest zeal for their spiritual improvement, let this stone, placed at their expense, attest how warmly they cherish the remembrance of their late Pastor, who died 9th August, 1804, in the eighty-fourth year of his age."

W. L.

Market Weston.

[1844, *Part II., p.* 304.]

The north wall of Market Weston Church, Suffolk, has been restored to a perpendicular position by a successful application of science. This church is supposed to have been erected in the fourteenth century; in 1630 it was injured by lightning, and again

ten years since it was much shattered by a thunderstorm. The time had now arrived when it became necessary to effect a perfect restoration, as, from age and the above-mentioned casualties, the north wall had declined outwardly 19 inches from the perpendicular, and threatened the utter destruction of the building. Under the superintendence of Mr. Cottingham, this wall (the weight of which had been calculated at 240 tons) has been brought up to the perpendicular by the process of expanding by heat three bars of iron, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, which traversed and connected both walls of the church. These bars (which had screws worked on one end of them, and projected beyond the south wall) were enclosed in cast-iron boxes filled with lighted charcoal. When the bars were fully expanded by the heat, the screws were wound up firmly to the undamaged south wall. The charcoal boxes were then removed, and the process of cooling commenced. Gradually the bars, contracting equally with their previous expansion, compelled the whole mass of the wall to follow the irresistible power now exerting itself, and in four successive operations the whole wall rose to its original perpendicular. The whole operation does infinite credit to Mr. Cottingham, who adopted the like means at Armagh Cathedral.

Mendham.

[1808, *Part II., p.* 969.]

Near the meandering banks of the Waveney, in a most delightful and exuberant island (originally called Bruningsherst) stand the shattered walls of Mendham Priory.* (See Plate I.) This monastery, as Bishop Tanner observes,† was founded in the reign of King Stephen by William, son of Roger de Huntingfield (with the approbation of Roger his son), who gave large possessions to the monks of Castleacre in Norfolk, on condition they should erect a church of stone, and build a convent by it, and settle therein at least eight monks, who were to be subject to the monks of Castleacre; in the same manner as Castleacre itself was to the monastery of St. Pancras at Lewes in Sussex, and that to the church of Runy in France. Yet, although in a subordinate state, few religious foundations, for privileges, magnificence, and architectural beauty, could vie with the Priory of St. Mary of Mendham. But, alas! painful to relate, after standing little more than three centuries and an half, this hallowed pile, this venerable mark of former grandeur (where the solemn organ sounded its grand melodious notes, and where the sweet breeze of holy song reverberated), received its summons, and fell a sacrifice to the rapacious dynasty of the times, and shortly after given with all its revenues by Henry VIII. (among other property)

* The greatest part of the parish of Mendham is in Norfolk, but the Priory stands just over the river on the Suffolk side.

† "Not. Mon. Suffolk," No. xxxiv.

to the newly-restored monastery of Bisham in Berkshire,* but that soon falling to nought, this priory, with the manor of Dentons in Mendham, was about two years after conferred by the above King on that valiant soldier Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk,† who caused his arms with those of his wives‡ to be engraved on stone, and placed on each side of the great western window of the Priory Church, where they remain to this day (Fig. 2). On the north side of the window is Brandon quartering Willoughby (Fig. 3); on the south side are the arms of Mary, Queen of France, and *third* wife to the aforesaid Charles, Duke of Suffolk.

The only part of the ruins now worthy attention is the "old chapel" adjoining the Prior's Lodge, which is allowed to be a very elegant piece of ancient architecture; the entrance is by a semicircular arched doorway on the east, fronting the court. On each side the interior of the chapel are twelve recesses with semicircular arches also, and, like that at the entrance, rests on square capitals profusely ornamented with sculptured foliage; between the piers or columns of these arches, it is said, the monks used to sit during Divine service. This part of the monastery not many years since was in a good state of preservation, and used for religious purposes by a family then resident in the Priory; but through reprehensible neglect, or the destructive hand of man, it is now little more than a mere ruin. In my notes on this religious foundation I find the names of two Priors not mentioned by Blomefield,§ viz., John, Prior in 1206, and another John, Prior in 1273. Trusting the above remarks will prove amusing to some of your numerous readers, I submit them for your consideration. W. ALDIS.

[1836, *Part II.*, *pp.* 601-604.]

Mendham, *i.e.*, Meaden-ham, the village of meadows, is seated upon the course of the river Waveney, between the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. The parish church (which is mentioned in the will of Theodred, Bishop of Elmham, in the year 950) is situated in the latter county, but part of the parish extends into the former. The Priory was from its foundation to the general Dissolution a cell to the larger house of Castle Acre in Norfolk, consisting of monks of the Cluniac order. This offset owed its plantation to William de

* Blomefield, vol. v., p. 315.

† He conveyed it to the Frestons, from whom it passed to the Bacons, and then to the Rants, in whose family it now remains, and by them is used as a farm-house.

‡ He had four wives: (1) Margaret, daughter to John Nevil, Marquis Montague; (2) Anne, daughter of Sir Anthony Browne, Knight; (3) Mary, second daughter to Henry VII. and widow of Lewis XII., King of France; and (4) Catherine, daughter and heir of William Lord Willoughby of Eresby. But I cannot find that any of the above families bore Lozengy for their arms, as Fig. 2 in the annexed plate.

§ "History of Norfolk," vol. v., p. 316.

Huntingfield, to whom Mendham had been granted by King Stephen, and who died in 1155. Two charters of the founder are extant, and are printed in the "Monasticon." By the first he gave to the house of Castle Acre "the island of Saint Mary of Mendham" with its appurtenances, and in the second, by which he enlarged the endowment, he described the recipients of his bounty as "the monks of Acre dwelling at the island of Bruniggeshurst."

He made the first donation with a special agreement, that at once as many brothers as should be necessary to rule the place should be settled in the island, and afterwards, as the place should be increased and improved, the number of monks should be augmented until a convent of monks might be placed there to hold the order according to rule, which should then be done as soon as possible. It was also stipulated that the same subjection which the Church of Acre owed to the Church of St. Pancras (at Lewes), or the latter to the church at Cluni, the same the above-said island should perform to the Church of Acre, and should pay in acknowledgment thereof half a mark of silver yearly.

With respect to the gifts conferred by the second charter, it was agreed between the founder and the monks that they should not be spent in other uses but that of building a church of stone. We have here an unusual documentary testimony to the architectural works at this house at so early a period as the reign of King Stephen.

By a composition between Roger de Huntingfield, son of the founder, and Hugh Prior, of Castle Acre, it was arranged that four monks at least should serve God for ever at Mendham, of whom four should be sent from Castle Acre.

The value of the estates of this priory, at the taxation of Pope Nicholas IV. in 1291, was (as collected by Mr. Taylor in his "Index Monasticus" of the diocese of Norwich), £4 12s. 2d. in six parishes in Norfolk, and £7 3s. 7½d. in eight parishes in Suffolk, in all £11 15s. 9½d. At the Dissolution it was valued as part of the possessions of Castle Acre.*

In 1539 the dissolved priory of Mendham was granted to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, and by him it was conveyed in 1555 to Richard (afterwards Sir Richard) Freston, his treasurer, and Anna, his wife, from whom it descended, by inheritance, to the Rev. Anthony Freston and George Rant, Esq., the owners in Norfolk and Suffolk respectively at the time of Mr. Taylor's publication (in 1821). The family of Rant resided at the priory when Blomefield wrote.†

* An error committed by Blomefield has been perpetuated by his followers, including Taylor's "Index Monasticus," and the new edition of the "Monasticon," that this priory was one of those annexed to the Abbey of Bustleham or Bisham, in Berkshire, when restored in 1537. It is the small Cistercian priory of Medmenham, in Buckinghamshire, to which this incident belongs.

† The editors of the "New Monasticon," vol. v., p. 57, quoting Blomefield (1806, vol. v., p. 376), say: "When Blomefield wrote, the site belonged to Mrs.

Latterly it was a farmhouse, but in 1815 the house was pulled down. Mr. Taylor says that "much of this ruin has been recently removed to another site."

The drawings from which the accompanying engravings have been taken were made shortly before the removal of the buildings. They represent (1) a plan of the priory; (2) some interesting architectural portions of the original buildings; and (3) some curious remains of the paintings with which the house was ornamented immediately after its conversion to a secular mansion.

The plan shows the relative positions of the Church, Chapter House, ancient Refectory, and the Tudor mansion formed out of the monastic buildings.

The church was latterly reduced to the nave and south transept, and converted to the purposes of a barn and malthouse. Its architecture did not appear to be of an earlier style than about the end of the reign of Henry III., or the beginning of that of Edward I.

All that appeared to remain of the original buildings were the Chapter House and the small semicircular doorway into the Refectory at *a* in the plan. The Refectory was lighted by eight large windows.

The Chapter House (incorrectly termed by Blomefield the chapel) was a fine specimen of the later style of Norman architecture, which prevailed in the reign of King Stephen. It was about 18 feet wide by 22 feet long, divided by columns into ten recesses on each side, and eight at the east end. The capitals and arch-mouldings are more elegant than those of the earlier Norman style, and much resemble those which afterwards prevailed in the reign of Henry II., as in the Temple Church, London, the choir of Canterbury, etc.

This Chapter House retained the pure style of Norman architecture, except in the lightness of the mouldings, and in the appearance of a single arch, slightly pointed (marked A in the elevation of the east end, Plate I., and in the plan). There were no remains of the upper portion of the building when these drawings were taken. The only windows were at the west end, one on each side of the entrance, as shown in Plate I. They had rebated mouldings, probably to receive the glass. The figures attached to the capitals in the plate refer to their situation in the building, commencing with that in the north-west corner. Every remaining variety is drawn, Nos. 2, 5, 6, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 26 were lost. Fig. B represents one of the capitals within the doorway at the point so marked on the plan, and Fig. C is the cluster of capitals on the southern side of the doorway without. It may be here mentioned that a view of this front of the Chapter House is engraved in the *Antiquarian Itinerary*, 1815, and that there is a rough general view of the remains in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1808.

Frances Bacon, of Earlham, widow"; yet at p. 384 it is stated that William Rant, Esq., then lived at Mendham Priory.

The mansion generally appeared to be the work of the Frestons on their first obtaining the property after the Dissolution. At *ff* in the plan was a long paved passage on the upper floor supported by joists. Over the fireplace in one of the chambers (at *c*), on scaling off the upper coat of plaster, was discovered the painting in distemper of the arms of Mary, Queen Dowager of France, as represented in Plate II., Fig. 1. The arms of France impaling France and England quarterly were supported by the French supporters, two angels, surmounted by an open crown, and encircled by a dimidiated collar, one half on the French side, consisting of the escallop shells of the order of St. Michael, and the other of the roses-en-soleil of the Royal livery of England. In the left-hand corner the same emblem was more fully displayed as a badge, viz., a rose-en-soleil, Party per pale gules and argent, seeded vert. Above this, behind the dexter supporter, was a shield of Brandon, quartered, with Beke and Willoughby, also quarterly—the insignia of the Queen's stalwart husband, Charles, Duke of Suffolk, and commemorative of his fourth marriage, after Her Majesty's death, with Catharine Lady Willoughby, of Eresby. Behind the sinister supporter was another shield, but its bearings, which had probably been a repetition of the other, were faded. Below it was the Brandon crest, a lion's head erased Or, ducally crowned. In front of the house, at the place marked *e e* in the plan, were carvings in stone of the Queen's and Duke's arms, each under coronets, and the latter within a garter.

Fig. 2 represents a painting in distemper in another room at *b* in the plan. From the appearance of a small fragment of a dolphin, etc., in another part of the walls, it appeared that the whole design had been originally repeated round the apartment. In printed books of the time of Henry VII. and VIII. woodcuts are frequently found with figures of dolphins, ox skulls, stringed rollers, etc., from which there can be no doubt that these paintings were done about the same time.

In some of the rooms and passages of the house the walls were painted with blue lines to imitate the joints of stone-work, much resembling our modern scorings upon plaster buildings, except that the upright lines were double. The same design of imitating the joints of stones was found in clearing away some of the whitewash within Aylsham Church, Norfolk, and it may be occasionally noticed in the painted glass of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Fig. 3 is a fragment of painting in the same room with Fig. 1. From the style of the leaves in the lower painting (revealed by the peeling off of the other), which resemble those commonly seen in Norman buildings, it may be deemed a portion of the monastic enrichments, and even as old as any part of the priory. The upper painting is, of course, of a subsequent date. J. A. Repton.

[1837, *Part I., pp.* 260, 261.]

Feeling an interest in every thing relating to the parish of Mendham and its priory, I rejoice to find that the pencil of Mr. Repton has rescued from oblivion the remains, of which engravings are given in your Magazine for December, since of the building of which they were formerly the ornaments scarce one stone is now left upon another.

Your correspondent has, in a note, pointed out some errors in the history of the priory committed by Tanner, Blomefield, and Taylor; but he had retained others by following their authority as to the dates attributed to the grant to the Duke of Suffolk (1539), and the subsequent conveyance by him to Richard Freston (1555). I am therefore induced to trouble you with a few additional particulars in correction of these trivial errors, and in supply of what appears to be deficient in Mr. Repton's communication.

I have not at hand my note of the date of the letters patent by which the site of the dissolved priory and its possessions in Mendham were granted to the Duke of Suffolk; but the deed of conveyance from him to Richard Freston (which is in my possession) is dated at Mendham on June 3, in the 28th of Henry VIII. (1537*), and is made to Richard Freston in fee, charged with the payment to the said Duke, his heirs, and assigns of an annual rent of £40 per annum.†

Charles Brandon appears, at the time of the Dissolution, to have had some claim to the patronage of this priory, in right of his fourth wife, Catharine Lady Willoughby, of Eresby, she being lineally descended from Cicely, wife of John Lord Willoughby, the eldest sister and co-heir of Sir William de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, on whom the same had been settled by William Lord Huntingfield, the last male descendant of the founder.

It is stated in Tanner that no common seal of his house had been met with. I have, amongst other charts relating to this priory, two to which the common seal is appended, being a deed and its counterpart of the manumission of a villein, and grant to him of a piece of land in the 9th Edward III. These are of green wax with impressions on each side. The obverse impression in both seals is much mutilated. It is of the usual ecclesiastical or vesical form, and about 2¼ inches long. The subject is the Holy Virgin, to whom the monastery was dedicated, seated on an ancient chair or throne,

* It is strange that this conveyance should have been so often repeated as having been made in 1555, Charles Brandon having died in 1544, eleven years previous.

† This rent was, in the 30th of the same reign, made over by the Duke to the King in consideration of a further extensive grant to him, and was paid to the Crown until it was purchased under the Acts of 22 and 23 Car. II. by Archbishop Sancroft, who annexed it in perpetual augmentation of the Vicarage of Fressingfield.

supporting the infant Jesus in her right arm, and bearing a cross or sceptre in her left hand. The circumscriptions are too much broken in both seals to be legible. The reverse has a small oval-shaped impression, bearing a half-length figure of the Virgin and Child within a Gothic niche, beneath which is the head and bust of an ecclesiastical figure, his hands in the attitude of prayer. These figures and the legends surrounding them are entire, but from the smallness of the characters I cannot satisfactorily decipher the latter. I have also a very perfect impression of the seal of the Prior John, temp. Edward II., mentioned by Madox ("Form. Ang.," p. 683).

To return to the site of the priory. After the death of Sir Richard Freston, by virtue of some settlement made by him, the house and demesnes, with the manors in the Suffolk portion, called Mendham Priory and Kingshall, came to Michael Wentworth, Esq., of Rogersthorpe in Yorkshire,* and the manor of Densons in Norfolk, to Richard Freston, his son.

In the 37th Elizabeth Michael Wentworth (grandson of the above) sold the property to Anthony Gosnold, of Clopton, of whom the mansion and estate, called the priory, were soon afterwards purchased by Edward Ward, Esq., and subsequently from him by Robert Green, Esq., who conveyed them to James Tyrrell, Esq., his son-in-law. Tyrrell resided at the priory, then called Mendham Hall, and died there in 1656, leaving two daughters his co-heiresses, one of whom, Elizabeth, married William Rant of Yelverton, Esq., and through this match the estate came into the family of the Rants, in a branch of which it is still vested.

The manors of Mendham Priory and Mendham Kingshall were purchased of Gosnold by one Laurence, and afterwards belonged successively to the Hollands, Baxters, Gardiners, and Whitakers. In 1803 they were sold to Alexander Adair, Esq., of Flexton, and William Adair, Esq., his successor, is the present lord.

The manor of Densons in the Norfolk part of Mendham (or that part of it which has for many years formed the hamlet of Needham) is the estate mentioned by Blomefield as belonging to Mrs. Frances Bacon of Eastham, widow, which is wrong, as this manor then belonged to Sir Robert Bacon, of Gillingham, Bart., and is now vested in the daughters and co-heirs of John Bacon Schutz, Esq. It was another manor in the same hamlet called Bourls, which never belonged to the priory, which was the property of Mrs. Frances Bacon, and from her came to the Franks.

The mansion formed out of the monastic buildings in which were the paintings described by Mr. Repton was probably the work of Sir Richard Freston, though it is doubtful whether he ever resided there, for having, in the first year of Edward VI., obtained a grant

* The Frestons were a Yorkshire family, and connected by marriage with the Wentworths.

from the Crown of the manor and estate of Wichendon or Wichington in the Norfolk part of Mendham, late parcel of the possessions of the dissolved priory of the Holy Trinity at Ipswich, he built a mansion there, where his descendants resided until the extinction of the family in the male line in 1761. This estate was purchased in 1824 by Alexander Adair, Esq.

The now distinct parishes or hamlet of Metfield in Suffolk, and Needham in Norfolk are included in the account given of this parish in Domesday Book. It contains several other manors which were in part the possessions of the priory. G. A. E.

Mendlesham.

[1784, *Part I., pp.* 975, 976.]

Give me leave to enclose you an exact drawing (see the Plate, Fig. 7) of a gold concave ring, the inscription on which has puzzled many antiquaries. It was ploughed up in Mendlesham, in the county of Suffolk, in 1758, near the palace, by tradition, of one of the kings of the Heptarchy, near which place, it is said, a silver crown of considerable weight was long since found. You will oblige me much by giving it a place in your Magazine, in hope some of your learned readers may be able to decipher it. It is in value about eight shillings; the inscription is supposed to be in the Runic or Sclavonian language. A Constant Reader.

Mildenhall.

[1796, *Part II., pp.* 542, 543.]

Your work being the repository of the deaths, marriages, and alliances of eminent persons, I send you the following church-notes, by which an article of the peerage may be corrected. F. S.

Church Notes, from Mildenhall, Suffolk, taken July 21, 1796.

The church of the little town of Mildenhall, in Suffolk, is large and handsome, with a rich roof of carved woodwork. It consists of a spacious nave, two side aisles, and a proportionate chancel.

In the Chancel.

Round the edge of an ancient flat stone, whereon is a cross, is the following inscription in ancient capitals:

"Hic jacet Ricardus de Wicheford, quondam vicarius ecclesie de Mildenhall, qui fecit istud novum opus."

On a brass plate:

"Hic jacet magister Ricardus Baggott, qui obiit i die mensis Septembris, anno Domini M°CCCC°XX° quarto."

On a flat stone is the figure of a man in armour, and formerly there was another of his wife, and, underneath, the following :

"Here lieth interred the body of Sir Henry Warner, of Mildenhall, in the county of Suffolk, knt., who took to wife Mary, the daughter of Sir Robert Wingfield, knt., of Letheringham, in the same county, who died the 6th of May, A.D. 1617.

"Here also lieth interred Edward Warner, esq., the son of the aforesaid Sir Henry, who took to wife Mary, the daughter of John Wentworth, of Gosport, in the county of Essex, who died 14 Maii, 1618."

On another :

"Mary, wife of Henry Warner, esq., the daughter of Sir Robert Wingfield, of Letheringham, esq., died 9 Nov., 1601."

Arms : per bend indented, quartering, a fleur-de-lis, impaling Wingfield, quartering, quarterly P. and . . .

It appears, by an adjoining stone, that Hugh Hovell of Kenninghall Park, co. Norfolk, Esq., married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Warner, of Warhill, in this parish. He died October 25, 1690, leaving issue by her an only daughter, the wife of Humphry Style, of Langley, in Kent, Esq.

In this town of Mildenhall formerly resided a branch of the noble family of North, whose large mansion here is now descended to Sir Charles Bunbury, Bart., but is not inhabited by him, though it was the residence of his father.

Sir Henry North, second son of Roger, second Lord North, by Winifred his wife, daughter of Richard Lord Rich, of Lees, was, in 20 Elizabeth, in that expedition to Norembega, under Sir Humphrey Gilbert ; and, in 28 Elizabeth serving with his father in the Low Country wars, was knighted by the Earl of Leicester. He has a handsome monument in this church, with the recumbent figures of himself and his wife, whereon it appears that he died at his house at Badmondilfield, in Wickham Brooke, December 12, 1620, æt. 64. By Mary, daughter of Richard Knevit, Esq., he had issue, Roger, Henry, Elizabeth, Mary, Dorothy, and John, who died an infant.

Sir Roger North, Knight, his eldest son, born March 12, 1587, died at his house called Finboro, June 17, 1651. He married (1) Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Sir John Gilbert, of Finboro ; (2) Thomasine, daughter of Thomas Clench of Folbrooke, Esq.

By the first he had issue two sons, Henry and Dudley, and one daughter, Mary.

Sir Henry, the eldest, was made a Baronet June 14, 1660. He married Sarah Raine, or Rayney, of the ancient family of Raine or Rayney, of Yorkshire (arms, Gules, two wings in lure, ermine), who died July 1, 1670, afer being married thirty-nine years. He had issue by her :

1. Thomasine, wife of Thomas Holland, eldest son of Sir John

Holland, of Quiddenham, co. Norfolk, Bart. She died September 18, 1662, æt. 28.

2. Henry, only son.
3. Duilleia, wife of Sir Thomas Cullum, of Hawsted, Bart.
4. Peregrina, single in 1670.

All these dates and circumstances appear from monuments in this church.

The heiress of this branch of the Norths married into the Hanmer family. Sir Thomas Hanmer, the Speaker, resided here. Susan, his sister and heiress, married into the Bunbury family. There is a memorial for Henry, son of Sir Henry Bunbury, and Susan, sister of Sir Thomas Hanmer, who died April 27, 1722, æt. 19. Also for Sir William Bunbury, Bart., who died June 11, 1764, aged 55; for Eleonora his wife, who died March 14, 1762, aged 45; for Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Sir Henry Bunbury, of Stanny, Bart., who died March 30, 1765, æt. 53, being first wife of Lieutenant-General Robert Armiger; for General Armiger himself, who died March 10, 1770, æt. 59; for William, son of Sir William Bunbury, who died March 28, 1749, aged 5.

In the south aisle is a flat stone for John Swale, Esq., who died July 7, 1780, aged 72. And for Jane his widow, daughter of William Melmoth, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq., who died September 4, 1795, æt. 80.

In the vestry-room is a flat stone for Giles Emily, A.B., Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, who died May 1, 1777, aged 23; for Elizabeth Pocklington, his sister, wife of Samuel P. of Chelworth, Suffolk, who died October 1, 1783, aged 35; for Giles Emily, A.M. their father, fifteen years Vicar of Hallavington, Wilts, twenty-seven years rector of Creeting St. Mary, and fifteen years curate of this parish, he died October 1, 1789, aged 77.

There are other inscriptions not equally remarkable.

The ancient mansion of the Norths at this town is of the reign of Elizabeth, and early in James the First's time. It has very many apartments, and a long gallery the extent of the front; but there are no large rooms, except the hall. It some time since was rented by the Prince of Wales for the convenience of the manor, the paddocks, and the propinquity to Newmarket. At present it is uninhabited. There remains in it a good portrait of Sir Henry North, temp. Charles II.

The house of Mr. Rushbrooke in this town is pulled down. Mr. Swale has a neat small house, close to Sir Charles Bunbury's. The old mansion used to be the principal residence of Sir William Bunbury, and before of the Speaker, Sir Thomas Hanmer; but Sir Charles resides at Barton, near Bury. F. S.

Moulton.

[1846, *Part II.*, *pp.* 181, 182.]

In repairing the rectory-house at Moulton, near Newmarket, an interesting discovery has been made. It seems that the older part of the house was once a chapel, and that at the west end of it was also a small chapel underground. The form of the building was oblong, about 35 feet by 17, with a porch at the south-west end. The east and west walls, above ground, were destroyed, doubtless when the building was converted into a dwelling. But the side walls, which are of great thickness, and the walls of the crypt, if it may be so called, are tolerably preserved. In the south wall, above ground, is the stone frame of a window, but the mullions seem to have been removed when it was blocked up, and a chimney applied in face of it externally. Opposite to it, in the north wall, and near to the west end, an elegant piscina was discovered, which had been concealed by the wainscoting; and in the crypt under it, but nearer to the west, is a locker or ambry, in which one of the hinges of the door was found. The west end of the crypt was lighted by two windows, the form of which is preserved, the light entering through apertures in the ground above, as in the case of modern cellars. Under the porch there is a doorway in the main wall, which gave entrance to a short winding staircase leading into the crypt. A cross wall 2 feet thick, about 15 feet from the west end, divided this crypt into two, on which rested a beam 13 inches broad and thick, running from the west end, and supporting the joists of the floor above. There is no record of this building, nor was there any previous suspicion of its having once served a sacred use. The architecture does not seem to differ much from that of the church, which is only at a short distance.

Newmarket.

[1802, *Part II.*, *pp.* 799, 800.]

The following monumental inscription is to be found within the Communion-rails of St. Mary's Church, at Newmarket, in Suffolk; but, being engraved upon a soft kind of stone, common in that neighbourhood, has long been considerably defaced. And though the writer of this article, at that time curate of Newmarket, was at some expense, about a dozen years ago, to preserve it by causing the letters to be cut afresh, the stone itself being lately broken into several pieces in opening the ground for a church funeral, a great part of the inscription is no longer legible, and the whole in danger of going quickly to oblivion, unless thought worthy of being preserved in some literary asylum. I beg leave, therefore, to request a place for it in your useful miscellany.

"Hic jacet mortale depositum ROBERTI COOK, nuper hujus parochiæ rectoris, cujus lingua nescio an vita suit facundior; utpote qui pietatis se præconem præstitit et exemplum. Dum vero concionandi officio nervos vehementius intendit, venâ interius disruptâ, omnis illi sanguis e corpore paulatim emicuit, mox etiam et anima. Sic vitalem pro Evangelio sanguinem effudit, sic pulcherrimæ succubuit morti martyrio non vulgari decorus. Sed paulum te siste, Viator, nam hicco pulvis nuper doctus et disertus necdum concionari definit, sed te quoque mortalem prædicat. Abi igitur, et immortalitatem suspira. Obiit 3 Jan., Anno Dom., 1681, ætat. suæ 30."

J. HEMSTED.

Orford.

[1788, *Part II., p.* 702.]

The enclosed drawing of the ruinated chancel appendant to the parochial chapel of Orford, in Suffolk, just taken by the ingenious Mr. Johnson, of Woodbridge (see Plate II.), will be no bad illustration of your friend Grose's view and description of that ancient structure. EUGENIO.

Rendlesham.

[1821, *Part I., pp.* 9, 10.]

Rendlesham Church is dedicated to St. Gregory, and here were the altars of St. Mary and St. John; the walls were built of flint-stone, and have been rendered over with a finishing (which is partly worn off by time), and strengthened with buttresses. It is 56 feet in length, 13½ feet in breadth, and 32 feet in height. And the length of the chancel is 38 feet 8 inches, of the same breadth with the church, but about 2 feet lower. The roof of the church is covered with lead, but that of the chancel with slate; over the church and chancel stand two crosses of stone. The south portico is built with black flint, and the roof covered with tile: this has likewise a neat stone cross. There are two niches over the door, now filled up with brick, which formerly contained figures of the Virgin; and a niche on the right of the entrance, for the holy water, which remains in its original state. The steeple, or tower, is of black flint, and built four square, very lofty, and supported by four buttresses at the angles. The view from the steeple commands the sea and Hollesley Bay, and an extensive inland view, marked with the towers of the neighbouring churches. The church within is pleasant, the roof of oak handsome and substantial, adorned with arches and other embellishments. (These are now entirely concealed, the nave and chancel having, within a few years, been ceiled throughout. The wood of the roof appears not to have been of oak, as the historian here states, but of Spanish chestnut.) It is now seated throughout with deal, except the front of some of the seats, which are of oak. The walls wainscoted round, 4 feet 4 inches high, and painted of an oak colour. In the highest pew, on the north side, and at the north-east angle of the same, there was a wainscot niche to sit in, adorned with two fluted pilasters, entablature, and

open compass pediment of the Doric order; within the pediment stood a neat convex and elliptical shield and compartment, enriched with the arms of Spencer, in their proper colours, and without a border; this has been long since filled up. At the west end of the church is a beautifully proportioned lancet arch, the appearance of which is, in a great measure, destroyed by the erection of a gallery, in itself handsome and commodious, in 1813. Within the gallery stands an octagonal font of stone, adorned with four lions sedant, and as many blank escutcheons, with a modern top or cover of wood. The chancel is large and handsome, and had a new roof set upon it in the year 1783, by the late rector, with a beautiful window at the east end, over the altar of elaborate workmanship, in the florid Gothic. The altar-piece was also erected at the same time, very neat, with pilasters and capitals in the Corinthian order, and painted to imitate Sienna marble. On the tables are inscribed the Decalogue, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer, with the following sentences of scripture: "Take, eat, this is my body; Drink ye all of it" (Matt. xxvi. 26, 27). "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?" "The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" (1 Cor. x. 16). "Surely the Lord is in this place," "This is none other but the House of God" (Gen. xxviii. 16, 17).

Towards the upper end of the chancel, on the north wall, stands an old mural monument, with this inscription:

"Here lyeth Simon Mawe, and Margery his wife, by whom he had five sons and six daughters. He was born at Epworth, in Lincolnshire, brought up in Suffolk, bore the Office of Steward of the Liberty of St. Ethelred 33 years, lived in credit to the age of 79 years, and died in peace the fifth of November, Anno Domini 1610.

"Hospes eram mundo per mundum semper eundo,
Sic suprema Dies fit mihi summa quies."

A little westward from the last, on the same side, within a niche highly ornamented, lies the figure of a man, with his hands clasped, as in the attitude of prayer. He has a small close cap on his head, attired in a long gown, which formerly was gilt and painted in gorgeous colouring. Two angels support the pillow on which his head reclines, and a lion couchant is placed at his feet. There is neither date, inscription, nor arms, which can throw any light upon the rank or identity of the person thus represented. I am, however, inclined to think, from the cap on the head, and the long gown, that he was a monk, one of the former rectors of the church.

On the south wall, and to the east of the chancel door, is a niche, either for a vessel of holy water, or for the image of the Virgin, or St. Gregory, the tutelar saint of the church. On the left of the pulpit stairs is a pointed arch, which is the entrance to a narrow staircase, which the priest ascended to the rood-loft, to elevate the host.

There are six black marble gravestones in the chancel, on which are the following inscriptions:

"Ut omnis lachrymatur marmor, loquuntur et lapides nunc temporis."

"Brianus Smith, et Anna soror ejus non ortu, at interitu Gemelli, Gnati Briani Smith, de Cavendish; et Annæ uxoris ejus, hic jacent uno eodemque die et tumulo sepulti, Mart. 13, Anno D'ni 1648."

"Dominus dedit, et Dominus abstulit: benedictum sit nomen Domini."

On another stone of black marble is inscribed:

"Here lyeth the body of William Redgrave, lately rector of this town, who died Anno Domini 1652, aged 62. The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart; merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come."

"M. S.

"Dominæ Elizabethæ D'Oyley, charissimæ Rectoris hujus Ecclesiæ conjugi, quæ obiit 29 die Octobris, Anno 1733, ætatis suæ 44."

"Here lieth the body of Henry Spencer, of London, merchant, who survived his elder brother John, which were all the issue of Edward Spencer, late of this parish, Esq., and of Judith Scrivener his only wife, born Anno Domini 1640, and died the 26th day of Sept. Anno Domini 1731. He acquired a competent estate by the blessing of God upon his honest endeavours, which he distributed in his life-time, and at his death to his relations and friends."

"Here lieth the bodies of John Spencer, of this parish, Esq., who died Anno D'ni 1709, aged 70 years. And also Edward Spencer, Esq., his only issue, who died the 25th day of March, Anno D'ni 1727, aged 48 years."

"This stone is put down by her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton, in remembrance of Dame Anne Barker, the most affectionate of mothers, and best of friends, who departed this life the 26th of Nov. 1764, aged 64. And beneath the same stone are deposited the remains of Elizabeth, relict of Sir James Dashwood, bart., of Kirklington Park, in the county of Oxford, and daughter of the above Dame Anne Barker, who died April 19th, 1798, aged 80."

[1821, *Part I., pp.* 105-107.]

This rectory, in the Pope's or old valuation, made 20 Edward I., was valued at thirty-seven marks; but in the new one or last, made 26 Henry VIII., at £24 13s. 4d., and the tenths are £2 9s. 4d.

RECTORS.

Robert de Lampet was instituted July 3, 1304, on the presentation of Sir John de Holbrook, knight, Lord of Colvylles.

John Oliver was instituted October 4, 1306, on the presentation of the late Alice de Holbrook.

Sayer Sulliard was instituted May 3, 1312, on the presentation of Sir John de Holbrook.

Godfrey Lumkin de Braunford was instituted July 13, 1332, on the presentation of Sir Thomas de Holbrook.

John Caperon, or Capron, was instituted April 22, 1349, on the presentation of the same Sir Thomas; and by his will, dated on the feast of St. Mary Magdalen, 1375, he bequeaths his body to be buried in the chancel here, before the image of St. Gregory, and gave forty

shillings towards making a tabernacle for the said image, and ten shillings for erecting of a cross at the division of the King's highway between Tunstall and Rendlesham; and probably the monument of the priest in the chancel was to the memory of this Caperon.

John Hendy was instituted May 29, 1375, on the presentation of Sir John de Holbrook.

John de Fordham was instituted June 20, 1387, on the presentation of Sir John Falstaff, knight, Lord of Colvylles. He was before Rector of Westwick, in Norfolk, which he exchanged with Hendy.

Thomas Cobbe was instituted March 28, 1388, on the presentation of the said Sir John Falstaff. Richard Rendlesham, or de Rendlesham, gent., gave three acres of land in Rendlesham to Thos. Cobbe, rector there, "ad elargiendum clausum mansi sui."

Robert Reeve was instituted April 30, 1425, on the presentation of Maud, the relict of Sir Hugh Falstaff, knight, and by his will, proved October 22, 1448, he desired to be buried in his own chancel.

John Sibbeton was instituted October 18, 1448, on the presentation of John Falstaff of Tunstall, Esq.

John Cluk was instituted June 20, 1459, on the presentation of King Henry VI.

William Merse was instituted July 24, 1474, on the presentation of Thomas Falstaff, Esq.

Henry Wingfield was instituted September 16, 1488, on the presentation of the said Thos. Falstaff, Esq.

John Stanhouse occurs rector ——, 1539, and was buried at Rendlesham, September 26, 1543.

William Wiseman occurs rector here at Bishop Hopton's Visitation, 1555. He was also rector of one of the Thornhams.

Walter Willet was instituted October 1, 1558, on the presentation of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, Lord of Colvylles. In the certificate to Archbishop Parker it is said of him, "non residet, non hospitalis!"

Christopher Homes was instituted July 13, 1572, on the presentation of Queen Elizabeth. "Sed non tenuit."

Nicholas Cook was instituted February 19, 1572-73, on the presentation of William Dyx and John Blennerhasset, Esqrs., trustees of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk.

Nicholas Cook was instituted July 11, 1583, on the presentation of Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel.

Edward Egerworth habuit Rectoriam Rendlesham sibi concessam per breve de privato Sigillo, July 24, 1583. "Sed non tenuit."

William Pemberton, S.T.B., was instituted November 13, 1584, on the presentation of the said Earl of Arundel, and buried in Rendlesham chancel October 24, 1598. He was also Rector of Ufford.

Alexander Revell, M.A., exhibuit Reverendo Patri Domino Epis-

copo præsentationem Dominæ Reginæ ad Rectoriam de Rendlesham in Comitatu Suffolciæ jam vacantem, et ad regiam præsentationem pleno jure, spectantem, January 17, 1598. He was also Rector of Blexhall, Chaplain to Robert, Earl of Sussex, and living 1618.

John Oughtreed.

Gervase Hubbald, Eboracensis, was instituted October 11, 1621, on the presentation of King James I. He was buried in Rendlesham chancel, April 19, 1645.

William Redgrave occurs rector 1649, and was buried in the said chancel 1652.

Richard Hook occurs rector 1653.

Brian Smith, S.T.D., was instituted September 16, 1660, on the presentation of King Charles II.

Edmund Stubb was instituted July 11, 1672, on the presentation of King Charles II. He was also Rector of Tunstall, and died in 1679.

Edward Keen was instituted October 13, 1679, on the presentation of the said King Charles, and died June 17, 1697.

Josias Alsop, S.T.B., was instituted August 25, 1698, on the presentation of King William III. He was also Rector of Sudborne, with Orford annexed.

Lawrence Echard, M.A., Archdeacon of Stow, was instituted October 2, 1722, on the presentation of King George I.

James D'Eygley, instituted November 11, 1730, on the presentation of King George II.

Eden Howard, instituted March 15, 1744, on the presentation of the said King George II. He was Rector of Chillisford.

Samuel Henley, instituted April 16, 1782, on the presentation of King George III.

Cuthbert Henley, M.A., instituted June 10, 1816, on the presentation of King George III. (present rector).

Benefactions.

Before the reign of Henry VIII. there did belong to this parish a town house, with two acres and a half of land. The house was burnt down, but by whom the same was given, and for what use, is not known.

John Freer, of Orford, by his will, bearing date June 18, 1520, devised to the Church of Rendlesham three acres of meadow lying in Rendlesham, holden by the copy of Court Roll of the manor of Lowdham Hall, for the payment of the King's Taske; the Churchwardens to do it; and to keep once in a year a dirge and mass for him and his friends. These lands were exchanged with Thos. Mawe, gent., in 1615, for the present town lands lying now in Snape; and the uses then settled were for the payment of the King's Taske, the reparation of the Church, and maintenance of the Poor.

John Spencer, Esq., by his will, dated August 1, 1706, gave £20 towards repairing the body of the church and bells; £10 towards repairing of the chancel; and did devise half an acre, purchased of Robert Miles, lying within Rendlesham town land in Snape, to the trustees of Rendlesham and their heirs for ever, to the same uses that Rendlesham town land there is limited. He also paved the nave of the church with Newcastle stone. Elizabeth Spencer, his widow, gave a silver salver and sacramental plate to this church in 1712, weighing 15½ oz., adorned with her arms, Argent three Catherine wheels within a border ingrained sable, impaled with Spencer, all within a lozenge, and enriched with a pretty compartment.

Mary Andalusia, late Baroness Rendlesham, also gave to this church a silver flagon with cover, a silver paten and chalice, and a silver offering dish with neatly-embossed edges, and in the centre of each of them the letters I. H. S. encompassed by a glory.

Leonard Mawe, a younger son of Simon Mawe above-mentioned, was born in this parish in 1573, Master of Peter House, and afterwards Master of Trinity College in the University of Cambridge; and in five years' time discharged that foundation from a great debt. He was Chaplain to King Charles I. while he was Prince of Wales, and waited on him in Spain, by whom he was made Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1628. He was a good scholar, grave preacher, mild man, genteel in his deportment, and died at Chiswick September 2, 1629.*

In this parish was born July 28, and baptized August 20, 1754, William Henry Nassau, Earl of Rochford, Viscount Tonbridge, and Baron of Enfield, son of the Hon. Richard Savage Nassau, and of her Grace Anne, Duchess Dowager of Hamilton and Brandon, and daughter of Edward Spencer of Rendlesham, Esq. The family estate of the Spencers descended from the Duchess of Hamilton to her son, Lord Archibald Hamilton, the late Duke Hamilton, by whom it was sold, and afterwards purchased by Sir George Wombwell, Bart., and by him sold to the late P. S. Thellusson, afterwards created Baron Rendlesham of Rendlesham, by whom the house was considerably enlarged, and the property much added to by successive purchases. He died in September, 1808, and was succeeded by John, the present and second lord.

In Camden's "Britannia" it is said that Redwald, King of the East Angles, commonly kept his Court here; he was the first of all that people that was baptized and received Christianity; but afterwards, being seduced by his wife, as Bede expresses it, in the self-same church, he had one altar for the religion of Christ, and another little altar for the sacrifices of devils. Suidhelmus also, King of the East Angles, was afterwards baptized in this place by Cedda the bishop.

* "Ath. Oxon.," vol. i., p. 781.

Bishop Gibson, in his edition of Camden, says that, in digging here about thirty years since, there was found an ancient crown, weighing about sixty ounces, which was thought to have belonged to Redwald, or some other King of the East Angles; but it was sold and melted down.

There are four manors in this parish, viz., Naunton Hall, Caketon's, Bavent's and Colvylle's. They are now all vested in Lord Rendlesham, who is the principal proprietor in the parish.

A farm in this parish, known by the name of the Hough Hill, said to have been formerly a residence of Edward the Confessor, was part of the estate of the Earl of Bristol, and sold by him to Mr. Thellusson. It came into Lord Bristol's family by the marriage of John Lord Hervey (grandfather of the present Earl, who was called up to the House of Peers during the lifetime of his father, by the title of Baron Hervey of Ickworth) with Mary, daughter of Brigadier-General Nicholas Le Pell, to which lady Horace Walpole, Earl of Orford, dedicated his "Anecdotes of Painting," and who, he says, "has conversed familiarly with the most agreeable persons, dead and living, of the most polished ages and most polished nations," and of whom Lord Chesterfield, in his "Letters to his Son," thus speaks:

"The other person whom I recommend to you is Lady Hervey. She has been bred all her life at courts, of which she has acquired all the easy good breeding and politeness, without the frivolousness. She has all the reading that a woman should have, and more than a woman need to have, for she understands Latin perfectly well, though she wisely conceals it. Desire her to correct and reprove every the least error and inaccuracy in your manners, air, address, etc. No woman in Europe can do it so well, none will do it more readily."

And in another letter:

"Apropos, the word *pleasing* always puts one in mind of Lady Hervey, who not only pleases herself, but is the cause of pleasing in others—for she can make any thing of any body."

From the testimony of these two distinguished characters who knew the world and the manners of the world, as well as any men then living, Lady Hervey appears to have been a woman of a richly-cultivated understanding, and an elegantly accomplished mind:

> "Fitted or to shine in Courts,
> Or walk the plain with unaffected grace."

On opening, a few years since, a rise of ground in the churchyard, on the north side of the church, a great number of human bones were discovered, lying confusedly within three feet of the surface; they had evidently been interred without the rights of Christian sepulture, and it is supposed that bodies of persons were there

deposited who had died of some contagious disease which rapidly carried off a large part of the population.

At the last census the population of the parish comprised 216 souls.

The accompanying neatly-executed drawing of Rendlesham Church (see Plate I.) is by Mr. Isaac Johnson, of Woodbridge, who has made a drawing of every church in the county of Suffolk, with a beauty and exactness which renders them well worthy of notice. H.

Rougham.

[1813, *Part II., p.* 17.]

The enclosed effigies in brass (see Plate II.) are on a flat stone on the north-east side of Rougham Church, near Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, and are the memorials of Sir Roger Drury, Knight, and Margery, his wife, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Thomas Naunton, of Chavent,* in that parish. Sir Roger was the son of Nicholas Drury, Esq., of Thurston, a contiguous village, and of Joan his wife, daughter and heiress of Sir Simon Saxham, of the last-mentioned place. This is the most ancient monument of the Drurys which can be ascertained; and its preservation is owing to a pew having been built over it. The family was divided into several branches; and from that part which was seated at Rougham descended Sir Thomas Drury, of Overstone, in Northamptonshire, Bart., who left two daughters, one married to John Hobart, Earl of Buckinghamshire, the other to Lord Brownlow; and one son, the Rev. George Drury, of Claydon, near Ipswich, in whom only and his heirs this ancient name survives in the county.

The figure of Sir Roger Drury is 4 feet in length; breadth at the shoulders, 11½ inches; at the hips, 9 inches; length of his sword, 2 feet 1 inch; dagger, 8 inches, nearly. That of Lady Drury in length, 4 feet within ½ an inch; breadth at the shoulders, 9½ inches; middle, rather exceeding 12 inches; at the feet, 15 inches.

F. H. Barnwell.

Sibton.

[1806, *Part I., p.* 17.]

I enclose you a tolerably correct drawing of a fragment of stone (Plate II., Fig. 2) lately found among the ruins of Sibton Abbey in

* There is a wood called Chavent on the east side of Rougham, which has for many years been the property of the Lords of the Manor of Hesset, the adjoining parish. A spot on the corner of the estate, formerly belonging to the Drurys, has apparent remains of a moat surrounding it, which is said to have been the old site of Rougham Place. Sir Robert Danvers, the first baronet, built the present Rougham Place, which, with the Drury Estate, lately belonged to the Hon. Mr. Bouverie, of Northamptonshire; and is now owned by the Rev. Mr. Kedington, a gentleman descended from one of the oldest families in Suffolk, to whom, among numberless obligations, I acknowledge myself indebted for the latter part of the foregoing account.—F. H. B.

Suffolk, which, if you think it worthy a place in your Magazine, is much at your service. The figures are delineated in outline on the roundlets, which are a little sunk below the surface of the stone, as well as the fillets which connect them. Between the two lower rows is a small perforation, about ½ an inch deep, and a little farther on appears a similar one filled up with lead, and covered over with a slight incrustation.

I shall be much obliged to any of your numerous correspondents who will explain the design of this tablet, which seems heraldic, or point out the part of the building it formerly ornamented.

The other sketches are from specimens of tiles or pavements found in the same ruins. Fig. 3 is of reddish earth covered with a green glazing, and seems intended as a bordering to the floor. Fig. 4 is a fragment of much harder earth, dark-coloured, and also glazed; the device on the shield is a cross engrailed in bass-relief, probably the arms of one of the abbots. Fig. 5 is covered with a slight transparent glaze; the shaded parts in the original are yellow, and the light ones red. JUVENIS SUFFOLCIENSIS.

Stonham Aspal.

[1811, *Part II.*, *p.* 516.]

I transmit you a very exact representation, both profile and front view, of a ring (see Fig. 6) now in my possession, which was lately found in the parish of Stonham Aspal, Suffolk. The gold of which it is formed seems very pure; but the workmanship is rude, and the gem which it encloses is, I believe, a virgin sapphire. The inscription engraved upon it is fully as clear and distinct as in the figure. Respecting its interpretation and purport, various conjectures have been offered; but, as I am not satisfied with any of them, I shall be much obliged by the sentiments of some of your learned correspondents on the subject. THOMAS GREEN.

Sudbury.

[1848, *Part II.*, *p.* 77.]

An antique oak pulpit, of remarkable elegance and beauty, has been discovered in the church of All Saints, Sudbury, having been so closely concealed for centuries by deal boards and paint that none but the curious in church architecture could have suspected its latent excellences. It is an octagon of the Perpendicular style, beautifully proportioned, richly carved in the higher parts of the panels, and terminating in a single pedestal, which is now very correctly made to rest upon an octagon stone plinth. The latest date which can be assigned to it is the early part of Henry VII.'s reign—the date of the church, if we except the northern arch of the church, which is as old as the reign of Edward IV. The pulpit must consequently have

been placed in the church half a century before the Reformation, and is now between 300 and 400 years old; and yet, not only is the oak sound as on the day on which it was constructed, but, as is remarked by all who have inspected it, the edges of the tracery are as perfect as if they were fresh from the carver's hands. A staircase, slightly winding, has been attached to the south side of the pulpit, open at the treads, and carved in front, in excellent keeping with the original design. The work of restoration has been effected by Mr. Ringham, of Ipswich. Pulpits of this description are exceedingly rare; the only one, we are informed, in these counties which may be compared with this is that in Southwold Church, which, if it should yield to it in antiquity and elegance, is even more elaborately carved.

Ufford.

[1786, *Part I., p.* 472.]

On February 21, 1786, as the workmen of Francis Brooke, Esq., were cutting a new road leading from Woodbridge into Ufford, Lower Street, in digging near the latter place, about 4 feet below the surface of the ground, they discovered a large pot or urn, in size holding about 2 gallons, of a hard blackish substance resembling over-burnt brick, filled with ashes and bones, supposed to be human bones, in searching amongst which they found two parts of a clasp of brass, or rather copper, from which the drawing now sent you (see Plate I., Fig. 3) was taken. J. Johnson.

[1788, *Part I., p.* 702.]

Plate I., Fig. 5 represents a stone coffin in the Church of Ufford in Suffolk.

Westhall.

[1844, *Part I., pp.* 597-599.]

I beg leave to send you the annexed transcript from the inscription upon a brass plate affixed to the wall in the Church of Westhall in Suffolk. . . . What is known of the early history of this parish is both small and unimportant. The Bohun family, as may be inferred from the inscription upon the brass, and as is recorded by Kirby, did not become possessed of the lordship till the reign of Henry VIII. From that period they continued to hold it, till, about twenty years ago, the Rev. Francis Browne Bohun, the uncle of the present Mr. Bohun of Beccles, a descendant in the female line, alienated it by sale. Their property in the parish appears from a manuscript in his hands never to have been large; but their mansion was one that denoted opulence and importance. It was an erection of the early part of the sixteenth century, a spacious square building, flanked at each corner with a small turret, and entered by Tudor archways; the

whole of dull, unsightly brick, and altogether destitute of any architectural pretensions. One half of it was taken down about the year 1808; the part still standing is reduced to the comparatively ignoble state of a respectable farmhouse, but still retains too many decisive marks of its original character to be passed without attracting attention.

Among the members of this illustrious family who resided at Westhall, the only individual that has acquired any posthumous notoriety is Edmund Bohun, the author of the manuscript just mentioned, an autobiographical sketch of a considerable portion of his life. He was born in 1644, and died early the following century. From the inscription upon the brass it may be inferred that he was the grandson of Nicholas Bohun, son of Francis, who placed it in the church, and was consequently by his mother's side great-nephew of the celebrated Sir Edward Coke. Of his works an imposing list will be found in Watt's "Bibliotheca Britannica"; but, with the exception of his "Great Historical, Political, and Geographical Dictionary," nearly the whole were of a controversial, and consequently an ephemeral, character; indeed to such a degree, that, numerous as they were, they have not even availed to procure insertion for his name in the pages of the "Biographia Britannica." In those of the "Parliamentary History" he stands recorded with no enviable notoriety. It appears that for a short time he held the office of Licenser of the Press, and in the execution of it unfortunately incurred the displeasure of the House of Commons for having affixed his imprimatur to two pamphlets, the one entitled "A Pastoral Letter," the other "King William and Queen Mary Conquerors." The Commons accordingly summoned him before them: the times were perilous, and probably on that account a very severe sentence was pronounced—that the books should be burned by the common hangman, and that the culprit should be reprimanded and deprived of his post, and committed to prison. Nothing further of him is known.

The church at Westhall is an interesting building, evidently of the Norman era, as are several others in the neighbourhood, though they, like this, may have undergone so many reparations and alterations and additions that but little of the original structure remains. Mr. Davy, in his "Architectural Antiquities of Suffolk," has figured the arches to the southern and western doors of entrance, both semicircular, and both richly ornamented. Over the latter are, what is very unusual, three smaller blank arches of the same style, imbedded in the wall.

Below, you have the inscription upon the brass, with which as I began so I end, subscribing myself, DAWSON TURNER.

"Thomas Plantagenet, Dvke of Bvckingham and Glocester, sone of Kinge Edward the Third, maried Elioner, eldest davghter and heire of Homfry Bohvn,

Erle of Hertford, Essex, and Northampton, high Constable of England, whose gravndmother was a davghter of Kinge Edward the First: the sayd Thomas and Elioner had issve a davghter, named Anne, sole heire. She was first maried to y^e^ Erle of Stafford, of whom discended the late dvkes of Bvckingham, and the lord Stafford that now is. Secondly, she was maryed vnto S^r^ William Bovrchier, Earle of Ewe, by whom she had issve, Henry, Will^m^, John, and Thomas: Thomas became a priest and was Arch-bishop of Canterbvrye: of Henry discended the late Earles of Essex and others: of William is discended the Earle of Bathe that now is: the afore named John maried the davghter and heire of the lord Barners; and they had issve S^r^ Homphry Bovrchier, who maried Elizabeth, davghter and sole heire of S^r^ Fredericke Tylney; and they had issve John Bovrchier; and the sayd Hvmphry died in the lyfe of his father, and therefore lived not to be lord Barners; and the sayd John Bovrchier, lord Barners, after the death of his grandfather maried Katherine, davghter of S^r^ John Haward, Dvke of Norfolk; and the said Lord Barners and Katherine had issve a davghter, named Jane, their sole heire; she was maried to Edmvnd Knivit, Sergeant Porter of the hovse of Kinge Henry the Eight; and they had issve elevin sonnes and davghters, whereof one, named Elizabeth, was married vnto Francis Bohvn Esqvire; and they had issve Nicholas Bohvn, that married Avdrie Cooke, sister to S^r^ Edward Cooke, attorrney generall to King James; and the said Nicholas died in the life of his father, leavinge behinde him, begotten of the bodie of the said Avdrie, seaven children, all infants. Novemb. 16, 1602."

Weybread.

[1865, *Part I.*, *pp.* 81, 82.]

I send you a sketch of a remarkable example of a low side-window at Weybread Church, Suffolk, which I believe has not been hitherto recorded. The almost universal position of such windows is on the south side of the chancel; in this case, however, the arrangement occurs in the west window of the north aisle. The window is of two lights, early Perpendicular in style, and similar to others in the same church. At about 18 inches from the sill there is a stone transom, and the intermediate portion is now filled up with plaster, so that it cannot be seen whether there are any remains of hinges. In the wall on each side of the window, at somewhat irregular distances from the transom (1 foot 8 inches and 2 feet 3 inches) is a cross formed of narrow slabs of stone, the central part being filled in with small squared flints. These have been supposed to be dedication crosses, but there are only these two in the church, and I cannot but think they have some connection with the window between them. There appears to be no reason to doubt that the transom is an original arrangement. The west window of the south aisle has its lower portion blocked up with plaster also, but there is no transom there, and the stoppage is evidently only a modern expedient to prevent outsiders from looking in, as the windows are only 4 feet from the ground.

The various theories which have been advanced respecting the object of "low side-windows" will be found in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. iv., p. 324. The explanation to which most weight is now generally attached is that given by Mr. J. H. Parker in a communication to the Society of Antiquaries, "Proceedings," Nov. 29,

1860 (vol. i., p. 262), "that they were to enable lepers to see the elevation of the Host at a chantry altar placed just inside the opening specially for their use, as they were not allowed to enter the church, and the Roman Church holds the doctrine of communion by sight as well as by touch." There are examples, however, of such windows through which it would be impossible to witness anything done within from the outside. The contrivance of such an aperture in one light only, out of two or three in the same window, as is sometimes seen, renders the theory of a "dole-window" more probable; but there are instances, it must be admitted, no less fatal to such a purpose. The west end of a church is not a likely place for a chantry altar; at any rate, the term "low side-window" seems, from the example now produced from Weybread, to be henceforward inapplicable. The church is about to be restored, and care will no doubt be taken to preserve this curious window. C. R. MANNING.

Wheatfield.

[1758, *pp.* 303-305.]

The parsonage house at Wheatfield, encompassed by a moat, is an ancient, though not a Roman building; but it is not without some extraneous ornaments of Roman architecture, picked up perhaps from the ruins of the temple erected to Claudius, which possibly stood in the same place, surrounded with water for the convenience of sacrificing. In a cornice of exquisite workmanship there is a large Roman C, and some imperfect figures of the date U. C., but the ignorance of some modern inhabitant has defaced it, either by prefixing the initial letter of his own Christian name, or by giving a ridiculous tail to another Roman C, inscribed perhaps C. C. (Claudius Cæsar) and so converting it into a G; whom, upon searching the parish register, I take to have been the simple rector, one George Carter.

In a garden of modern disposition belonging to the parsonage, formerly called the orchard, stands a Grecian temple, built according to the model Andronicus Cyrrastes gave to the Athenians. It is an octagon, supported by eight Ionic pillars; which order being sacred to Bacchus, Apollo, Ceres, and Diana, it was, no doubt, dedicated to one of those deities. Some learned antiquaries are of opinion that this temple, amongst other spoils of Greece, was brought to Rome, and afterwards transported to Britain, and placed where it now stands by Claudius Cæsar. But there is one fatal objection to this account, and that is the Latin inscription upon it; for Claudius was a scholar, understood Greek, and valued antiquities, and would not have been guilty of such an inconsistency as to write in Latin upon an ancient Grecian building.

This temple is made of wood and plaster, and therefore cannot be supposed to be the identical temple first erected here; though the

orders have been very exactly preserved; but, like the Royal *Sovereign*, has been built and rebuilt till scarce a plank is left of the original structure. The pavement is tessellated Musaic, corruptly called Mosaic work.

There were many imperfect letters and words upon some scamna, or benches, disposed in different parts of the garden, which more than hint to us that the obscene god Priapus had a statute erected to him in one of the fruit quarters; for the Priapeia Carmina have "le haut Gout de Salete," which discriminates them from all other Carmina whatever. The modesty of modern times has resolved the doubt, "Cum faber incertus Scamnum faceretne Priapum," in favour of decency, by converting, and as it were returning the *inutile lignum* to its native purposes; and I wish the learning of modern times also had been able to read, because it would certainly have erased the filthy inscriptions. However, I have had interest enough to prevail with the present possessor, upon convincing him of their obscenity by the help of a dictionary, to demolish them all. The nakedness of the boys and girls, who are the *Formido avium* at certain seasons of the year, I do not consider as a tincture of Priapism, or want of modesty, but real want of clothing.

In a shady and obscure part of the same garden there remains very entire a Gothic arch, built with black flints, and directly over the centre of the arch is placed an angel, in a full-bottomed wig, clothed with a vestment of many folds, tied together by a bandage, not unlike what our clergy call a sash, with wings fully expanded, bearing, and, as it were, presenting with both hands a shield, pearl, a fesse, sable, between three garbes, or, supposed to have been devised according to the properties, and name of the parish, WHEATFIELD. This herald angel seems to have been commissioned by the same superstition that employed the like sort of minister to present the arms of France to Clovis, the first Christian king of that nation.

There are Disci, Sympuviæ, and Pateræ, to be met with in almost every house, but they are not put to very religious uses. Fibulæ are very rare, or unnoticed; owing, probably, to the confined idea men have of the rotundity of a button; whereas the Roman fibula was of various forms. I have lately been favoured with the sight of one by a lady; it is about 3 inches long, regularly tapered, and sharp pointed; in all respects like the Roman fibulæ found at Ribchester in Lancashire, except the curvature. By the devices engraved on it, viz., the Arcus and Sagittæ, it seems to have been a pin of the modest goddess Diana: "Subnectit fibula vestem." It has a small eye at the larger end, as the Roman Acus, through which something of lace or bobbin might be drawn (as a nail through the linch-pin of an axle-tree, to keep the wheel on) that the fibula might not at any time slip out, and expose the nakedness of that chaste deity. I shall not dispute it with the learned, if they choose to suppose that this is a

Fibula Chirurgica; and that the Arcus and Sagittæ are as well emblems of Apollo, the god of physic; though such an explanation subjects the faculty to idle jokes and reflections; and it had certainly been more decent, if not more just, to have given emblems of his healing, rather than of his murdering capacity. This instrument it was probably the Pollinctores made use of to lard the dead bodies it had killed, with the more stringy, though unctuous sorts of spices. It is now used—O tempora, O mores!—as a bodkin.

After the departure of the Romans, this village was made a settlement of the Scots and Picts, whom Gildas, with a peculiar propensity to turn everything into lamentation, supposes to have been savage and cruel, from some innocent posts, erected for a different purpose, by supposing them engines and gibbets of torture for the poor natives of this place. But a late eminent antiquary, though he has not given us the true use of them, has certainly led us to it. He fancies, from an old manuscript, that these were mile and rubbing posts; but it is more probable that worms or mould have robbed his manuscript of two letters, s c, and that it was scrubbing instead of rubbing posts.

The religion of this people did by no means require temples; and their want of taste and elegance made them quite indifferent about the order of their other buildings; so that the huts they erected, which are the greater part now standing, are rather dormitories than houses of any other accommodations. They left behind them no good, nor, indeed, wicked customs; but many that were clownish and indelicate, such as blowing the nose without a handkerchief, sitting down to dinner without a table-cloth, and doing the occasions of nature over a rail, or a battling. They left no nostrums but what were culinary, such as how to make frumentary and hasty pudding; and no distemper, but the itch, for which they always will be had in remembrance. Many of these people, enamoured with the plenty and change of diet, peaceably settled here, and some of their posterity are still remaining in the village. Of the first, are the Johnstouns, the Stewards, and a numerous family provincially called Scots, who, coming and returning in a hurry, left their proper names behind them. Of the second, are the Greens, the Browns, and the Osborn family, which latter, though written with an O, according to the broad pronunciation of those people, is, orthographically, Asborn, a word synonymous to naked.

The Saxons afterwards made doors to the huts erected by the Scots and Picts, built chimneys, which the former never heard of, and made windows which they never wanted. They carved huge columns for bedposts, and embossed bread-and-cheese cupboards; set tables upon magnificent pillars, and chairs upon cloven feet. The Danes were not long landed in this island before they sent a detachment to secure this important village; and they entered it on the south side, at a gate called, to this day, for that reason, Enter-

Lond-Gate, as a memorial of their entrance upon the land of wheat and plenty at that very place; but they were not so easily admitted as the former depredators had been; the Britons, the Scots and Picts, and the Saxons joining forces, and with great unanimity opposing them. There are several round hillocks, which was the usual form of a Danish entrenchment, cast up in different parts of the village; now, indeed, called mill-hills, through mistake, or perhaps with modern propriety; because some wind-mills may, since those times, have been erected upon them. The Danes stayed long enough to fix some of their language, such as "Grave," from *tegere*, to cover, and "Gaffer," which signifies master, a word in such general use here that, within the space of thirty years, there was but one man except the parson, that was ever accosted by any other term of salutation. The same may be said of "Gammer," for mistress.

In a parlour belonging to a farm-house called the Rookery there was a remarkably large dormer of chestnut, and about the middle of it the following inscription, cut with a knife or a chisel: "WARTER. IOHN. C. I. T. S. 449. D. B. M. W. T. 994." It has been seen by many antiquaries, and their sentence has been always that one John Warter, a blockhead, that did not know his heels from his head, and could not spell his own name, was the author of it; and the initial letters, or abbreviations and dates, have been considered as the reveries of an idle head or a fortuitous hand, to which opinion I have always subscribed; but reading lately, upon a tomb-stone in a neighbouring church, a monumental inscription of very modern date, with abbreviations like some of those before described, I was encouraged to attempt a solution a second time. D. B. M. W. T., by the help of this clue, I soon found to signify, Done. By. Me. Wm. T—— suppose Turner, for perhaps it is the humour of this family to abbreviate in this manner. By the same light I discovered that Warter John did not cut the inscription, but was recorded by it. I next considered what remarkable era 449 was, and found it was the very year Vortigern struck a league with Hengist the Saxon. C. I. T. S. I then fancied signified Called In The Saxons, but what to do with Warter John I knew not, write and spell him how you will; because no man of that name is mentioned in the history of those times. At last, by frequently repeating Warter John, I discovered the sound of Vortigern; and that name suiting both the first abbreviations and the date, I concluded the author, through ignorance, or punning, or enigmatic ingenuity, which are much alike in their operations, has enveloped and perplexed the thing, but must mean Prince Vortigern.

Some awkward customs or habits remain among the inhabitants of this village which seem to be of Saxon extraction.

The present state of this parish differs nothing from the ancient in point of fruitfulness. The people are Christians, as appears most evidently from the parish register; and all of them, when they do not

stay at home, go to the same place of worship; except one ——, who, retaining some tenets of his British paganism, pays his devotions under an oak or a walnut-tree, with a modern druid, every sabbath-day. The prevailing taste runs much upon building temples to Cloacina, and menageries for wild boars—structures in themselves beautiful, but at the expense of that noble Roman way, the Via Icenorum that leads through the parish, which they narrow and adumbrate.

Wingfield.

[1775, *p.* 512.]

Wingfield Castle was built by a family of great reputation, who flourished here before the Conquest, and from the place took the name of De Wingfield, or Wingfield; from them it came into the hands of the Brewse, or Bruces, and from them to the Uffords, Earls of Norwich, from them to the Delapoles, Earls of Suffolk; it was for a long time, and till lately, vested in the family of the Catalynes. The lady of the late Sir Charles Turner, Bart., was the relict of Sir Nevil Catalyne, after whose death it descended to the heirs of Thomas Leman of Wenhasten, Esq., in whom it now is.

Witnesham.

[1828, *Part II.*, *p.* 23.]

In the parish of Witnesham, near Ipswich, where my principal estate lies, I had the honour of being intimately acquainted with the Rev. John King, who was Rector of Witnesham, in Suffolk, for a great number of years, and died at the place about five years since, aged eighty-four. He was a very amiable character, and to his charity to the poor there were no bounds, though he had a very numerous family to support. This gentleman informed me some twenty years since that he had several relics in his possession, proving that a battle had been fought at Witnesham. I should be glad of any further information on this point. To confirm this supposition, a Mr. Charles Poppy, a very intelligent agriculturist in the same parish, told me very lately he had found upon his land a human skeleton, with that of a horse beside it, having been dug up within six feet from the surface. Mr. Poppy showed me several marks of military accoutrements, a part of the saddle, stirrups, etc. The studs of the saddle were of silver.

Kirby, in his "Suffolk Traveller," has remarked of Witnesham that "Bartholomew Lord Burghersh had a good old seat here, the site of which may still be seen in Mrs. Child's farm, where it had a moat round it; and that dirty road, now corruptly called Burrage Lane, had its name from him. He was one of the first Knights of the Garter, or, as they are called, one of the founders of that order."

P. Meadows.

Woodbridge.

[1789, *Part I.*, *p.* 301.]

The Church of Woodbridge, in the county of Suffolk, is said, in an account lately published by Mr. Loder, illustrative of a beautiful plate of it by Johnson and Basire, to have been built by John Lord Segrave and his wife, Margaret de Brotherton, in the reign of Edward III., and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Over the door of the steeple, on the right hand, are the arms of De Brotherton, and on the left, those of De Brotherton and Segrave impaled. In the middle above is a cypher of I. H. S. crowned.

The church is a spacious, tall, and well-built fabric, consisting of a nave and two aisles; the roofs covered with lead, and supported by ten beautiful slender pillars, and four demy ones of the Gothic order. The walls of black flint strengthened by buttresses. Adjoining to the chancel, on the north side, is a private chapel, erected in the reign of Elizabeth, by Thomas Seckford, Esq., Master of Requests; the east window whereof is adorned with a fluted Doric pilaster. On the south side is a handsome convenient vestry. The north portico is of the like materials, and covered with lead; adorned on the front with the representation of St. Michael the Archangel encountering the Dragon, done in relievo. In the church were altars of St. Anne, Sancti Salvatoris, and the Chapel of St. Nicholas in the north aisle. In the churchyard, or in the walls of the church, was a famous image of Our Lady.

The tower is a very large and noble piece of architecture, built of the same species of stone with the church, and of a quadrangular form, having for its greater strength as well as ornament, four buttresses standing at the four angles; towards the top the flint and stone are beautifully intermixed in various devices. On the four corners are four finials, on each of which is a weather-cock; in the middle between the finials, on the battlements, are the badges of the four Evangelists. This steeple and the north portico were built in the middle of the fifteenth century, as appears by several legacies given by various persons at different times. A mutilated inscription remains upon a stone, inserted in the wall on the north side of the tower about the height of 24 feet, upon which the name of Albrede may be easily discerned.

	Feet.	Inches.
Length of the church	69	5
Breadth	47	0
Length of the chancel	31	5
Breadth	17	10
Height of both about	49	0
Height of the steeple	108	0

There are within the steeple a clock and chimes. On the bells the following inscriptions (taken in 1712):

1. "John Darbie made me 1669."
2. "Miles Grey made me 1638."
3. "Miles Grey made me 1638."
4. "Miles Grey made me 1676."
5. "John Darbie made me 1679."
6. "John Darbie made me 1677."
7 and 8. Bells added many years after.

The advowson of this church, amongst other of the possessions of the priory, was at the Dissolution granted first, 20 Henry VIII., to Sir Anthony Wyngfelde, Knight, for twenty-one years; afterwards, 33 Henry VIII. to John Wyngfelde, Esq., and Dorothy his wife, in special tail-male. On the death of John Wyngfelde without such issue, it was, by patent dated May 15, 1564, 6 Elizabeth, granted to Thomas Seckford, Master of Requests, in fee. In that family it continued until 1673, when it passed, by the will of Mrs. Dorothy Seckford, into the family of the Norths, of Laxfield, a younger branch of the noble family of that name. From the Norths it passed, also by will, in 1707, to the family of Carthew.

Thomas Youngs, after the dissolution of Woodbridge Priory, was instituted vicar of this church June 26, 1555, upon the collation of the bishop by lapse; but it being soon found that it was no vicarage, the same year he was called "Capellanus Parochialis."

John Godfrey, curate, 1596.

Josias Hunt, 1605.

Thomas Crompton, 1618.

Robert Cade, 1626 (died of the plague in 1666, as did his wife and child of the same distemper, and upwards of 300 of the inhabitants).

Edmund Brome, 1666.

John Blyth, 1719.

John Clarke, 1736.

Thomas Carthew, F.S.A., 1779; patron and perpetual curate of this church.

Woolpit.

[1844, *Part I., p.* 295.]

The open roof of Woolpit Church, in Suffolk, has recently undergone complete restoration, and is now finished, with its appropriate niches and figures, in a style which it is hoped will afford an example to be followed in the many structures of Suffolk where restoration is so much needed. The *tout ensemble* is fine. The clerestory is divided by the roof into ten bays by eleven pairs of principal frames

and trusses. These frames are formed of three stories of half-arches or spandrils, supporting horizontal timbers or hammer beams. The ends of these beams are finished with the figures of angels. The bays are highly ornamented with star Tudor mouldings. The cornice is charged with figures of angels also, and bosses. The compartments are divided by Tudor mouldings. This work has been completed by Mr. H. Ringham, of Ipswich, whose talent in ecclesiastical carving, though highly appreciated in the locality, is not so extensively known as it deserves to be.

Wordwell.

[1824, *Part I.*, *pp.* 297, 298.]

The village of Wordwell, Suffolk, is now so reduced as to have no more buildings in it than the church, the Manor farmhouse, with two or three cottages. These are near each other, and above fifty years since the Parsonage House made one among these, having been situated on the north side of the churchyard; but grass has long grown over its site.

The situation is upon rising ground, in an open champaign country; some springs arise in the south and west parts, which quickly increase into a small clear rivulet, and run through the garden and yards of West Stow Hall, near adjoining, and so into the navigable river at Flempton.

Wordwell was anciently the lordship of Thomas de Wordwell.*

Roger de Borghden was parson of Wordwelle, anno 22 Edward III., as appears by a fine, then levied, of lands in Chippley† in Suffolk.

The Church (see Plate I.) is 11 yards long inside, and 6 wide. The chancel, which is parted from the church by a Saxon arch, is about 6 yards by 5. On the left side of the altar is a niche. The old stone font is of large diameter, and stands upon 3 feet of squared stone (see Fig. 1). Near it one small bell hangs on two beams in the inside of the church, west side. The north doorway, as well as the south, is very old. The entrance on the south is through an ordinary bricked porch. Under this porch, and over the south door of the church, is a rude carving representing two animals in a sort of foliage (see Fig. 2). The carving (Fig. 3) is over the north door in

* Kirby's "Suffolk Traveller."

† The Manors of Hundon and Chippley, in Suffolk, were sold to the first Lord Cavendish for £15,000 by King James I., as appears by a special grant of his Majesty, dated May 27, Ann. Regni nono, 1611. Chippley Abbey, and what was called the Manor, are in the parish of Poslingford (Taylor's "Index Monasticus," fol. 1821, p. 95).

Chippley Abbey belonged to the late John Vernon, Esq., of Wherstead, in Suffolk, and is now the property of Sir Robert Harland, Baronet, in right of his lady, sister to the late Mr. Vernon.

the inside, and is supposed to mean the Annunciation. The carvings (Figs. 4 and 5) of the strange animals and of the shields, are both on the seats on the south side near the west end, and facing the west. In a south window was a small figure of St. Michael, and in one of the quatrefoils a shield with, on a cross, five estoiles. On the back of the seats rude carvings of llamas and other strange animals. Some rude letters are visible on an old stone in the chancel. Two more very old stones lie within the seats on the south side of the Church.

In July, 1799, the Earl of Bristol, Bishop of Derry, with his only son, Frederick William Lord Hervey, conveyed the Wordwell estate and advowson of the Rectory to Charles, first Marquis Cornwallis.

Patroni olim; Joannes Hervey de Ikeworth; Gulielmus Hervey, miles.

Rectors.

1542. Cuthbert Harvey.
1564. John Barrett.
1580. Edmund Reeve.
1587. John Askew; buried September 1, 1619.
1619. John Gibbon, B.D.
1629. John Beale.
1658. M. Humphrey.
1662. Timothy Adamson.
1720. Robert Butts, M.A., afterwards Bishop of Ely.
1736. John Battley, M.A.
1741. Joseph Layton.
1746. Roger Cocksedge.
1750. Bernard Mills, D.D., died 1787.
—— Roger Cocksedge, jun., A.M., died at Bramall in Cheshire, July 31, 1794.
1795. James Sidney Neucatre.

The Register of this small and obscure village is very old; the first entry is in 1579.

In the Register of Baptisms the following entry occurs, "1765 Booty, son of Tho. and Eliz. Harvey, 20 May." This distinguished native of the parish went, at a very early age, to sea, under the patronage of Augustus John, Earl of Bristol, then owner of the manor and estate at Wordwell, and having all along acquitted himself much to the satisfaction of his superiors, was, in due time, advanced to the rank of Post Captain in the Royal navy, and having, on March 27, 1812, while commanding his Majesty's sloop *Rosario*, displayed much gallantry in action with a French flotilla off Dieppe, was honoured by the appointment of "Companion of the Order of

the Bath"; and by the following armorial ensigns, viz., Azure, on a pale argent, between two eagles displayed or, each surmounted by an anchor erect, as the last, a trident sable, entwined by two branches of laurel proper. The crest, on a wreath of the colours, between a branch of oak and another of laurel, a dexter cubit arm erect proper, the hand holding a trident or, on the staff a flag hoisted azure, thereon the word "Rosario," in letters of gold; and on a scroll, whence the Order of the Bath is suspended, is inscribed the word "Dieppe."

The Earl Marshal's warrant, issued to Sir Isaac Heard, Knight Garter, and George Harrison, Esq., Clarencieux, bears date March 11, 1816, 56 George III. F. H. BARNWELL.

Wrentham.

[1812, *Part I., p.* 313.]

Wrentham Hall, in the county of Suffolk, was the seat of the ancient family of Brewster from the reign of Edward VI. to 1797, when, by the sudden death of the last heir male, this venerable mansion, and the estates belonging to it, became the property of Mrs. Meadows and John Wilkinson, Esq., aunt and first cousin of the deceased, by whom the whole was sold in 1810 to Sir Thomas Gooch, Bart. The Brewsters were gentry of consideration in their county for a long period; but they appear to have attained their highest elevation during the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell, to whose party Robert Brewster, Esq., the then possessor of Wrentham Hall, was a warm adherent. He sat in the Long Parliament which dethroned the monarch, for the borough of Dunwich, in the room of Henry Coke, Esq., disabled for his loyalty. The writ issued for his election, by vote of the House, bears date September 2, 1645. Among the five gentlemen of Suffolk to whom the representation of that county was granted by Oliver Cromwell and his officers in July, 1653 (the assembly commonly called Barebone's Parliament) appears the name of Francis* Brewster. In the Parliament of the succeeding year Robert Brewster, Esq., of Wrentham, sat again for Dunwich; and in that of September, 1656, he was one of the ten representatives of Suffolk, and voted for conferring the title of King upon the Protector. To preserve the memory of an ancient family, and their residence, which has recently been taken down by the present proprietor, you are requested to insert this brief account, and the view of Wrentham Hall which accompanies it (see Plate I.).

T. B.

* If this is not an error of the compilers of the "Parliamentary History" for *Robert*.

The following articles, which do not contain matter of special topographical interest, are omitted :

1801, part ii., p. 697. Plan for gaol, Bury St. Edmunds.
1804, part ii., pp. 800, 801. Mr. Nield's remarks on Prisons in Bury.
1805, part ii., pp. 841, 917, 918. Review of Yates's "History of Bury."
1808, part ii., pp. 1058, 1059. Mr. Nield's remarks on Ipswich Gaols.
1850, part i., pp. 585, 586. Emigration from Suffolk to New England.

References to other volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library :*

Prehistoric Antiquities : Skeletons, skulls, and bones of animals at Bury St. Edmunds ; urn discovered in cliff at Dunwich ; ancient British sword found in Lark River.—*Archæology*, part i., pp. 17, 18, 73, 146.

Roman Remains : Burgh Castle, Coddenham, Eye, Great Wratling, Rougham, Whitton, near Ipswich, Wickham Brooke.—*Romano-British Remains*, part i., pp. 303-318.

Architecture : Bury St. Edmunds, Bridewell, and Abbey gateway.—*Architectural Antiquities*, part i., pp. 243, 372 ; part ii., pp. 5, 8.

Folklore : Superstition generally ; calving superstition ; witchcraft.—*Popular Superstitions*, pp. 122-132, 197, 235, 236, 242, 276-280.

Dialect : Local expressions.—*Dialects, Proverbs, and Wordlore*, p. 25.

Ecclesiology : Monuments at Aldborough ; pinnacle on church at Boxford ; Norman towers at Bury St. Edmunds ; tower of Lavenham Church ; decoration on parapet at Long Melford ; lychnoscope at Roydon ; carved font-cover and pinnacle at Sudbury.—*Ecclesiology*, pp. 39, 93, 114, 115, 130, 131, 135, 170, 172, 173.

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